Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-91-206
Thursday
24 October 1991

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Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-91-206 *24 October 1991*

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NOTICE TO READERS: The United States Government recognizes the independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

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Worldwide Issues

Pankin Attends UNESCO Conference in Paris

Meets UNESCO Director

LD2310133991 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS special correspondents Viktor Khrekov and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Paris October 23 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin met in Paris today with Federico Mayor, director-general of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

After addressing the UNESCO general conference, currently under way here, Pankin will take part in a ceremony of signing final documents on Cambodian settlement.

Reads Gorbachev Message to Meeting

LD2310134891 Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS special correspondents Georg Mikhaylin, Viktor Khrekov, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Paris October 23 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, on a visit to the French capital, today addressed the general conference of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

He read out a message to the forum's participants from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The message stressed UNESCO's services to spreading education, facilitating the preservation of peoples' cultural heritage, saving historic sights and establishing international cooperation among workers of science and culture.

Participation in UNESCO, the message pointed out, enables each country to partake of world experience and use accomplishments of others for accelerating one's own development.

Sees Positive Trends

LD2310163291 Moscow TASS in English 1607 GMT 23 Oct 91

[by TASS special correspondents Georg Mikhaylin, Viktor Khrekov, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Paris October 23 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin today addressed the current session of the UNESCO general conference. He read a message by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to forum participants.

Pankin cordially welcomed delegations from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Tuvalu—states admitted to the UNESCO membership during the current session.

Intellectual and moral solidarity of the international community is now needed as never before to help mankind survive and continue stage-by-stage development, noted Pankin.

Radical changes are underway throughout the world, a new era is beginning—the era of the collapse of totalitarianism and painful but steady establishment of democracy.

The August events in the Soviet Union demonstrated that we will face many dangers and obstacles on this way. The Soviet Union greatly values the fact that UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor was one of the first to support democracy and freedom from the very beginning of the dramatic August events.

The Soviet foreign minister devoted special attention to the UNESCO role in this climate. It is a positive change that a universal desire of constructive cooperation has replaced fruitless ideological disputes, stressed Pankin.

The revival of a UNESCO intellectual mission has special significance. The mission is bound to unite the best minds of mankind in order to solve global problems.

The Soviet Union supports the reform-oriented course followed by UNESCO member-states, noted the minister. The Soviet Union is sure the current session of the general conference will give fresh impetus to this process.

It is impossible to improve the activities of the organisation without increasing the role of member-states, making relations between them and the secretariat more harmonious, providing for a radical concentration of programs, and overcoming bureaucratic structures and methods, Pankin went on.

After the failure of the August putsch, the Soviet Union entered a transitional period, the Soviet minister said. There is no old union any more, the new one is under construction.

Republics as sovereign states are becoming fully-fledged subjects of international life. Forms of political and economic relations between peoples of the Soviet Union can and will change. But the peoples themselves and the very country with its diverse and rich culture will remain real characters of the world history, he declared.

Discusses Mideast With Baker

LD2310141191 Moscow TASS in English 1339 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS special correspondents Aleksandr Krivykh, Viktor Khrekov, Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Paris October 23 TASS—Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Boris Pankin and U.S. Secretary of State James A. Baker had a meeting this morning at the

"Intercontinental" Hotel in Paris. They discussed a complex of measures connected with the concluding stage of preparation for the Middle East peace conference opening in Madrid October 30.

In reply to journalists' questions before the meeting, Baker noted that at the present time we have a historical opportunity to solve one of the most complicated problems, to achieve Middle East settlement. In his opinion all the participants in the forthcoming Madrid conference are interested in attaining success at the talks.

"I do not want and cannot predict anything but the most important thing is that the interested parties should sit down at the negotiating table and come to mutually acceptable solutions", said the U.S. secretary of state.

The Soviet minister of foreign affairs arrived in France on Tuesday to join in the final session of the Paris conference on Cambodia opening today.

Pankin's official visit to France will start tomorrow, October 24.

Optimistic on Mideast Talks

LD2310165391 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS special correspondents Georg Mikhaylin, Viktor Khrekov, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Paris October 23 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin said on Wednesday the world community's efforts to reach peace in the Middle East have proved successful so far.

Pankin, who arrived in France on Tuesday to attend a session of the Paris conference on Cambodia, told journalists at the UNESCO Headquarters today "the Middle East peace conference in Madrid proves the world community's efforts to reach a comprehensive and lasting peace in the region are successful. The rest will depend on the sides' positions".

In the morning, Pankin addressed the 26th session of the UNESCO general assembly.

He told TASS the Cambodian settlement has showed that multilateral negotiations are very effective in solving conflicts. Pankin expressed hope that all concerned sides, including Israel, realise the importance of the Middle East peace conference to open in Madrid on October 30.

Commenting on his talks with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat on Tuesday, Pankin said: "The accent was put on the need to solve all problems in the Middle East by peaceful means, through negotiations."

Both leaders welcomed the Middle East peace conference.

Pankin said Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush will act as co-chairmen at the conference in Madrid. They will also discuss disarmament issues and bilateral relations, including economic aid to the Soviet Union.

Further on Paris Conference on Cambodia

TASS Details Agreements

LD2310130191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0940 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By special correspondents Viktor Khrekov and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Paris, 23 Oct (TASS)—In the presence of the secretary general of the United Nations Organization, the participants in the Paris conference on Cambodia today signed a number of documents on the Cambodian problem: an agreement on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian conflict; an agreement concerning the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, and inviolability of the neutrality and national unity of Cambodia; a declaration on Cambodia's restoration and reconstruction; and also the concluding act of the Paris conference on Cambodia.

In order to have the settlement agreement implemented, a period of transition is declared. It begins the moment the document comes into force, and ends after the constituent assembly, elected through free and just elections, organized and verified by the United Nations, has approved the constitution and turned itself into a legislative assembly, after which Cambodia's new government will be set up. The sides that signed the agreement have called upon the UN Security Council to set up a temporary UN body in Cambodia—the UNTAK [expansion unknown]. Both its civil and military components will be accountable directly to the UN secretary general. The Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNCC]—"a unique legitimate body and source of power, embodying the sovereignty, independence, and unity" of the country—will be in operation during the period of transition.

The agreement also states that the SNCC represents Cambodia abroad for the duration of the transition period, and occupies Cambodia's place at the United Nations and other international institutions and conferences. With the aim of ensuring a neutral political situation favoring free and fair general elections, administrative institutions, bodies, and departments that could directly influence the election results will be put under direct UN supervision or control. As soon as the agreement comes into force, all foreign forces, advisers, and military personnel in Cambodia "are withdrawn from Cambodia with all their weapons, ammunition, and equipment, and do not return there." UNTAK will monitor this. The agreement also envisages a cease-fire by the hostile parties, and also the halting of foreign military aid to the Cambodian sides.

The agreement focuses particular attention on problems of reliably guaranteeing human rights in Cambodia, and

outlines measures to deal with the problem of Cambodian refugees and displaced persons. They are granted "the right to return to Cambodia and to a safe life of dignity free from any intimidation or coercion." Principles of repatriation have been defined as one of the integral parts of a universal political settlement. The freeing of all prisoners of war and internees will be carried out under the guidance of the International Committee of the Red Cross as quickly as possible.

An appendix to the agreement sets out "the principles of a new Cambodian constitution," which proclaims the status of the country as a sovereign, independent, and neutral state, as well as the national unity of the Cambodian people. The constitution will state that Cambodia chooses a system of "liberal democracy based on pluralism." An independent judiciary will be set up.

The declaration on the restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia envisages the study of development priorities; UN organizations and international financial and other agencies will send a mission. During the restoration stage, it states in the document, special attention will be paid to issues of "ensuring food supplies, health care, housing construction, professional training, education, the transport network, and to restoring a fundamental infrastructure and public utilities."

To ensure coordination and supervision of incoming contributions from the international community for the reconstruction of Cambodia, it is planned to establish a consultative body, to be called the International Committee for the Reconstruction of Cambodia, once a government has been formed following elections.

The final act of the Paris conference stressed that implementation of the documents for a political settlement "will facilitate the further development of a process of national reconciliation and strengthening of the United Nations's role, and will provide the Cambodian people with an opportunity to determine its political future for themselves." The participants in the conference issued to the world community "a strong plea to render generous economic and financial assistance" for the restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia.

Rogachev on Cambodia's Future

LD2310162291 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1430 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Remarks by Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev in an interview with Mayak correspondents on the Paris conference on Cambodia in Paris; date not given—recorded]

[Text] The Cambodian settlement is happening during some very favorable changes that are taking place: improved ties between the USSR and the United States, the complete normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations, a decisive fundamental improvement in relations between the Soviet Union and the ASEAN countries, and improved relations between China and Vietnam. All of this created good preconditions for the final settlement of the Cambodian conflict.

Now we are drawing the line: We really want Cambodia to become an independent, neutral, democratic state. Prince Sihanouk will probably become the leader. He is the chairman of the Supreme National Council. He chose the path of liberal democracy. This state will allow the existence of many parties. It is, of course, very important to note the UN role. This is also something new, characteristic of the international situation now, the role of the general secretary, of Deputy General Secretary Ahmed, who has been conducting this process with us for several years. I want to note the role of the five permanent members of the Security Council. After all, a few years ago we were still very far from each other in our points of view. Now, however, we have one goal, and when we meet we find solutions to all the problems very quickly. We will put an end to one of the longest and bloodiest regional conflicts.

Pankin Signs for Soviet Union

LD2310192691 Moscow TASS in English 1914 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondents Aleksandr Krivykh, Viktor Khrekov, and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Paris, October 23 TASS—The Paris conference on Cambodia ended today in the French capital with the signing of a series of agreements on the Cambodian settlement.

Among them are the agreement on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian conflict, the agreement on Cambodia's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, inviolability of neutrality and national unity, the declaration on the restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia and the final act of the Paris conference on Cambodia.

Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin took part in the signing ceremony on behalf of the Soviet Union.

Pankin Addresses Concluding Session

LD2310221691 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Boris Pankin, USSR minister of foreign affairs, met U.S. Secretary of State James Baker at the Intercontinental Hotel in Paris this morning. The heads of the foreign policy departments of the USSR and the United States discussed a package of measures connected with the concluding phase of preparations for the Near East peace conference due to open in Madrid on 30 October. An agreement on a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in Cambodia is due to be signed in Paris at 2030 Moscow time today. That is perhaps the most important event of the day.

On the eve of the signing of this important document, however, the situation in the northwestern regions of

Cambodia has again deteriorated. Fighting involving artillery has been under way there for the last few days between subunits of government troops and forces of the opposition Khmer People's National Liberation Front. Additional tension has also been created by the attempts by Khmer Rouge formations to infiltrate the territory of a refugee camp located on Thai territory on Tuesday.

Our special correspondents Yevgeniy Lukyanov and Viktor Levin report from Paris:

[Lukyanov] The concluding session of this Paris peace conference on Cambodia was addressed today by Boris Pankin, USSR minister of foreign affairs, who was the first of the delegation chiefs to speak. He noted in his speech that the settlement of the Cambodian problem is yet another step on the way to a stable and secure world order based on freedom of choice and a balance of global, regional, and national interests, democracy and humanism. We are convinced, the Soviet minister stressed in his speech, that the most reliable and sensible mode of action in conflict situations is open dialogue and collective efforts. Therefore, he noted, we appeal to all sides involved in conflicts, whatever regions of the world they are in, to be amenable to each other and recognize that no state interests or political or ethnic interests can be served through the blood and suffering of the people.

The Soviet Union acts in the belief that our country's deep involvement in resolving world problems is in full accord with its national interests and creates a favorable international background for surmounting domestic difficulties, Boris Pankin stressed.

[Levin] Of course, even when real prospects are opening up for a peaceful settlement, as is the case here with Cambodia, the road of dialogue and of collective efforts does not guarantee the elimination of all problems. Surely, an obviously dissonant note interrupted the festive melody of this day. It became known that the Khmer Rouge, who have already inflicted considerable suffering and misfortune on the Cambodian people, intend to bypass the coordinated provisions of the Paris agreements by forcibly resettling some of the Cambodian displaced persons and refugees.

In connection with this, a spokesman for the USSR Foreign Ministry issued a statement stressing that the Soviet Union is resolutely in favor of firm guarantees that there will be no return to the tragic policies and practices of the recent past in that country.

In about an hour and a half, the ceremonial signing of the agreement on a Cambodian peace settlement will take place, and new, pleasing prospects will open up before Cambodia.

Pankin Meets With Sihanouk

LD2310203591 Moscow TASS in English 2021 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Paris 23 October TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin today met Chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council Prince Norodom Sihanouk, within the framework of the Paris conference on Cambodia.

The sides exchanged opinions on aspects of the fulfilment of agreements on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian conflict and the development of bilateral relations in the light of the documents signed in Paris.

The Soviet minister passed over to Prince Norodom Sihanouk an invitation to visit the Soviet Union in 1992. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction.

An agreement has been reached on the accreditation of a Soviet ambassador at the Cambodian Supreme National Council, on the basis of agreements on the Cambodian settlement.

Gorbachev Sends Greetings

LD2310213391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" program]

[Text] President Gorbachev sent his greetings to participants in the Paris conference for a settlement in Cambodia, which is viewed as a major international event confirming the effectiveness of new world policy.

Grachev Briefing on Mideast, Military Costs

PM2310195191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[G. Alimov report: "M. Gorbachev and G. Bush To Meet in Madrid"]

[Text] On the evening of 28 October, USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev will leave by air for Madrid to attend the Near East peace conference. This was announced at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists by Andrey Grachev, head of the press service of the head of state.

The forum, which was prepared under the co-chairmanship of the USSR and the United States will open 30 October, despite the obstacles and difficulties which have been cropping up until very recently. The two countries' presidents intend to speak at the first session of the conference. Then the functions of co-chairman will pass to representatives of the Soviet Union and the United States.

According to A. Grachev's statement, our country attaches great importance to the upcoming conference and will contribute to ensuring that the conference is able to resolve the tasks which are facing it.

The opening of the Near East peace conference in Madrid can be rated as a great diplomatic victory for the USSR and the United States, who have worked toward

this as partners who understand each other well. As for the efforts of the U.S. side, there is no need to mention them especially. This work was visible, especially the repeated visits to that region by U.S. Secretary of State J. Baker.

The work at this conference will be difficult, the USSR president's spokesman said, and therefore it is necessary to retain a "store of patience."

In the morning of 29 October M. Gorbachev intends to meet with U.S. President G. Bush, and later he will have talks with the Spanish leadership. The president is planning to return home in the evening of 30 October.

[Unidentified correspondent] Who will be part of the Soviet delegation?

[Grachev] The fact that this team has not been formed along formal lines is attracting attention. Apart from Boris Pankin, the USSR minister of foreign affairs, the delegation includes Yegor Yakovlev, for example, who is going to Madrid as a member of the the USSR President's Political Consultative Council, and Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the Russian Parliament's Committee for International Affairs.

[Unidentified correspondent] What is the USSR's current military expenditure?

The Soviet Union, A. Grachev said, has submitted details of military expenditure to the United Nations Organization. They are divided into three sections in order to meet the requirements of the UN standardized form of accountability. To date, operational military expenditure totals 22,816 million rubles [R], technical equipment and construction totals R35,718 million; and research and development totals R12,882 million. Overall military expenditure totals R71,990 million. This total of military expenditure also includes foreign military aid, which stands at R574 million.

Petrovskiy Addresses UN on Disarmament

LD2310140191 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] New York October 23 TASS—"The new Soviet and American initiatives in disarmament are a large-scale breakthrough to a nuclear free and secure world", Vladimir Petrovskiy, the first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, said here on Tuesday. He spoke as part of the general discussion held in the first committee at the 46th UN General Assembly.

"The USSR and USA have shown actual identity of fundamental positions on a wide spectrum of problems connected with dismantling their military structures", said Petrovskiy. He stated the appearance of the first signs of rapprochement in approaches of the two countries towards including naval problems in the disarmament process. Both countries noted the community of views on the prospects of further reduction in armed forces and conventional weapons.

"Of course, it would be an exaggerated assertion to think the American and Soviet programmes of action in the disarmament sphere are fully identical", added the Soviet representative. "Yet, the Soviet and American initiatives have opened a unique opportunity to change radically the mechanism of the arms race, to turn it into its antithesis and to make it work in the opposite direction, that is in favour of disarmament", stressed Petrovskiy.

China

Pankin, PRC's Qian Qichen Discuss Relations

LD2310210691 Moscow TASS in English 2049 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS special correspondent]

[Text] Paris 23 October TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin met here today his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen to exchange information on the situation in the Soviet Union and China.

The sides considered some aspects of bilateral relations in the light of the fact that the Soviet Union and China are great neighbouring friendly nations.

They touched upon essential international problems. The Chinese side confirmed the positive estimation of initiatives by presidents Gorbachev and Bush on the reduction of nuclear arsenals. The ministers expressed mutual hope that their fulfilment will contribute, in particular, to the positive changes on the Korean peninsula.

Boris Pankin and Qian Qichen agreed to hold a profound dialogue on the whole range of issues of mutual interest during an official visit of the Chinese foreign minister to the Soviet Union scheduled for March, 1992.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Spokesman 'Welcomes' Suu Kyi's Nobel Prize

BK2410093091 Moscow Radio Moscow in Burmese 1430 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] The spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry held a news conference in Moscow today to announce that the Soviet Union welcomes the decision taken by the Nobel Peace Prize Committee to award Daw Aung San Suu Kyi the Nobel Peace Prize for her struggle to win democracy and human rights in Burma.

The spokesman said: Soviet mass media and many Soviet public organizations have valued highly the awarding of the world's most prestigious and honorable award to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and we wish to join them in extending our congratulations to her. We hope

that the principles of justice and democracy will prevail and that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will be freed to continue without any obstruction her public and political activities for the benefit of her own people.

Afro-Asian Society Sends Message

BK2410111591 Moscow Radio Moscow in Burmese 1430 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Interview with (Nadisav Gradoslava), representative of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asia and Africa, by an unidentified correspondent on the congratulatory message to Aung San Suu Kyi for winning the Nobel Peace Prize—place and date not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] How do the members of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asia and Africa view Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's winning the Nobel Peace Prize.

[(Gradoslava)] Our Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asia and Africa has sent a congratulatory message to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in Yangon [Rangoon]. The message says the Soviet mass organizations happily welcomes the Nobel Peace Prize award for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, a precious daughter of the Myanmar [Burmese] people and leader of the National League for Democracy [NLD]. The message also commends and honors her outstanding courage and firm resolve in defending and struggling for freedom and democracy.

[Correspondent] Are Asian and African countries familiar with the name of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the tasks she has undertaken?

[(Gradoslava)] Definitely. Although Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has been under house arrest since last year's elections, her party, the NLD, took part in the elections. The name of Aung San's daughter, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, has become well-known in Asia and Africa as well as in the other continents of the world. The people of the world have reasons to expect the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Her party is ready to form a new government and has adopted her programs as its platforms. They used them in the election campaign with the hope that these platforms would be incorporated into party policy. However, these hopes have not materialized.

[Correspondent] Do you think Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will be able to come to Europe to receive the Nobel Prize?

[(Gradslava)] We know she is presently under house arrest. The military government has proposed releasing her if she agreed to leave the country. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has, however, turned this down. She believes that she would not be allowed to return to her motherland. It appears that she feels duty-bound to continue her struggle. With her firm resolve, she is proving that she has, indeed, inherited General Aung San qualities.

[Correspondent] It seems mass organizations throughout the world are declaring their support for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. What is the position of the committee you head on this issue?

[(Gradlava)] In our message to Yangon, the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asia and Africa has called for the immediate release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her associates. This would be in accordance with the universally accepted principle of respect for human rights and freedom. We believe the decision to award Nobel Peace Prize on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi would become an effective support for all democratic forces within Myanmar.

Near East & South Asia

Israeli Ambassador to Moscow Interviewed

OW2310185791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1613 GMT 23 Oct 91

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Israeli ambassador to the Soviet Union Arye Levin has said that it took 24 years to restore justice and diplomatic relations between his country and the Soviet Union. In an exclusive interview to DP [Diplomatic Panorama] Mr. Levin said that step was a symbol of favourable changes in the world, standing next in line to disarmament and the easing of world tension. Mr. Levin believes that these processes prompted the Soviet Union to restore diplomatic relations with Israel, severed in 1967.

Levin said that Moscow's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Israel was an important contribution to the cause of the Middle East settlement. He believes that now that the Soviet Union has good relations with Israel and its Arab neighbours, it will be able to play a "very positive role" at the Madrid conference on the Middle East and direct Israeli-Arab talks that will ensue.

Mr. Levin believes there is a good outlook for wider Soviet-Israeli relations. True, it will take time to know each other better. Israel is a very dynamic country having many people with a Soviet background. The Israel Foreign Minister believes this offers additional opportunities not to be missed. He voiced the certainty that the Soviet Union and Israel will soon have mutually beneficial and civilized ties—economic, scientific and cultural.

Asked whether the restoration of diplomatic relations will make it easier for Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel Mr. Levin said that the emigration procedure was rather liberal already now. He welcomed the Soviet Union's attitude to the problem taken over the past year. At the same time the Israeli ambassador said he hoped that from now on emigration rules would be eased further.

About the possibility of opening consulates in sovereign Soviet republics Mr. Levin recalled that back in 1990 (when the two countries established consular relations) Israel said such a step would be necessary. The Soviet side made no serious objections. The Israeli ambassador said that a number of consulates could open in the near future in the western part of the Soviet Union, for instance in Kiev, and in eastern areas, for instance, in Central Asian republics. In these regions there are quite a few Jews who need Israel's consular services. To get an Israeli visa these people have to go to Moscow, which poses "colossal problems". Mr. Levin recalled that last year alone 184 thousand Soviet Jews moved to Israel. Early estimates say that another 140 thousand are to follow suit this year.

Besides, there are additional considerations, including economic and commercial ones, for which Israel would like to open consulates in sovereign Soviet republics. The Israeli ambassador made it quite clear that in case any of these republics gains full state independence, something some of them have continued to insist on, "relations with them can be changed".

Mr. Levin confirmed reports that already now preparations were under way for opening a direct air link between Moscow and Jerusalem (so far there have been charter flights only). The political obstacles to that (there were some several months ago) have now been removed and the road is clear, the Israeli ambassador said.

Israeli Embassy Reopened After 24 Years

LD2410094691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0930 GMT 24 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Oct (TASS)—The diplomatic mission of Israel reopened today in the very same building where the embassy of this Middle East country was situated 24 years ago, before the complete break in relations between Moscow and Tel Aviv. As is known, diplomatic relations between the USSR and the State of Israel were restored on 18 October this year during a visit by Boris Pankin, USSR minister of foreign affairs, to Jerusalem.

"This is a great and happy day, and even happier days lie ahead of us." That was how Arye Levin, the head of the Israeli Embassy in Moscow, commented on its opening. In the presence of press representatives he took down a plaque from the wall reading "Consulate of the State of Israel" and replaced it with a plaque reading "Embassy of the State of Israel." The Israeli national flag was raised and the country's anthem played.

Commmentator on 'Historic' Mideast Conference

LD2310175291 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Boris Pankin, has concluded his tour of the Middle East. Yuriy Solton analyzes the results of his mission:

Like the United States Secretary of State James Baker, who also recently visited the region, the Soviet minister was working for convening a Middle East peace conference. His visit was crowned with the signing in Jerusalem of an agreement on the restoration of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Israel, severed by Moscow a quarter of a century ago. Talks with the leaders of Jordan, Syria, and Egypt were also fruitful.

In Paris today, where Boris Pankin arrived for the internatonal conference on Cambodia, he is meeting with the PLO leader, Yasir 'Arafat. One has many reasons to believe that the steps taken primarily by the United States and supported by the Soviet Union to organize a peace process in the Middle East have produced the first results. Only some extraordinary event might hinder the convocation of the conference which Presidents George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev are to open in Madrid on 30 October. What made such an important event possible is primarily the renunciation of global rivalry by the Soviet Union and the United States. In the past, Moscow and Washington were concerned primarily about weakening each other's positions, not defusing this or that regional conflict. Now, we see the results. The hotspots of the planet are gradually disappearing, for instance, in Nicaragua, Angola, South Africa, and Cambodia. Now, hopefully, the tight knot in the Middle East formed by wars, mutual mistrust, and hostility can be untied. Peace cannot be imposed by force, of course, but it is possible to help restore it. These intentions are expressed in the invitations Washington and Moscow have sent to the expected participants in the conference last Friday. The invitations say that the Soviet Union and the United States are ready to help the sides attain a fair, lasting, and all-round peace. However, the conference will not make decisions compulsory to the participants. All issues should be resolved through future direct bilateral talks between Israel and Arab states and separately with the Palestinians. One important thing must be stressed: The United States and the Soviet Union share the conviction that a peace settlement should be based on United Nations Security Council resolutions providing for the liberation of Israeli-occupied Arab lands, the recognition of the legitimate right of Palestinians to self-determination, and guarantees of security to all countries of the region, including Israel.

Neither the organizers of the conference—the USSR and the United States—nor the participants expect easy discussions or fast decisions. However, the historic significance of the conference is that for the first time in over 40 years of wars and confrontation, the conflicting sides will look each in the face and sit down at the negotiating table. This will give a good start to the peace process.

'Ridiculous' Velayati Views on Israel Deplored

LD2310194691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1130 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati, speaking in Tehran at an international conference in support of Palestine, has rejected all possibilities of an agreement or reconciliation with Israel. The only possible way of resolving the Palestinian problem, he stated, lies in destroying the Zionist regime and returning the holy land of Palestine to Muslims. Velayati called the Middle East peace conference planned for the end of the month an absurd show aimed at strengthening the Zionist regime and all expansionist forces. Here is Igor Surguchev with a Mayak commentary.

[Surguchev] As it has become clearer that the Middle East peace forum, under the co-chairmanship of the USSR and the United States, will be held after all, so the voices against holding it have been getting louder in a number of countries in the Near and Middle East. The leaders of Libya and Iraq have become the most visible and fervent advocates of rejecting the idea of peaceful dialogue between the Arabs and Israel. They have been joined in this by representatives of the ruling circles of Iran. The statement by the Iranian foreign minister perhaps expresses in a most naked form the essence of the posiiton of those forces in the region which not only criticize the Soviet-U.S. initiative on settling the Middle East crisis, but flatly reject it. This is in our times, when the entire world has, it would appear, become convinced of the ruinous and unproductive nature of strong-arm methods in resolving international problems, and of the need to replace them with peaceful, political means. But it must be said that there are still statesmen who are not averse to returning us to the era of confrontation, violence, and wars, and who are not ashamed to urge the destruction of a sovereign state and UN member such as Israel.

I will say bluntly that it is ridiculous to hear such appeals from the head of the Foreign Policy Department of Iran. After such bloodthirsty remarks, what reasoned, balanced assessment of the fact of convening a Middle East conference and of its prospects can be expected from Mr. Velayati and his ilk? You cannot ignore the fact that the position of the Iranian minister and those who think like him in high places in Libya and Iraq is manifestly tinted with the murky coloration of religious intolerance, of rejecting Israel's right to exist as a bastion of faith alien to Muslims. All of this strongly smacks of medieval fanaticism.

It is striking that under the slogan of holy war with the so-called Zionist regime, countries have united where there is not a hint of democracy, where elementary democratic human liberties and rights are grossly violated, and where religion is used by the authorities to stir up the population against the infidels. In giving such a hostile reception to the very possibility of a peaceful political settlement in the Middle East, the theocratic regime of Iran and the despotic regimes of Iraq and Libya are openly showing their faces as opponents of peace and mutual understanding among peoples.

On learning the reaction of Tehran, Baghdad, and Tripoli to the convocation of the Middle East peace conference in Madrid on 30 October, you cannot help reaching the conclusion that the enemies of democracy are also the enemies of international peace and stability.

Iran 'Ignored' in Gulf Security Discussions

NC2410104091 Moscow Radio Moscow in Persian to Iran 1430 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Yuriy Andreyev commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: A conference of the Army chiefs of staff of the six Persian Gulf Arab countries has been held in the Omani capital. We invite you to listen to details on this conference and to Yuriy Andreyev's commentary.

The chiefs of staff of the armed forces of Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates [UAE] have gathered in Muscat. Reports indicate that they discussed forming a collective security system in the Persian Gulf. Among the plans discussed during the conference was the plan for a 100,000-strong joint armed force. The Arab countries of the Persian Gulf also discussed plans for attracting the Syrian and Egyptian military to participate in this force and matters concerning the West's participation in regional security.

Reports and facts show that the final decision on this has not yet been made and that consultations will continue. However, some deductions can be made now.

First of all, we should say that Iran has once again remained out of the picture and had to follow the conference from a distance. The same thing the Arab world did seven months ago during the Damascus conference when it ignored Iran's views has been repeated. In March, the so-called Damascus Declaration was approved envisaging the formation of joint armed forces to ensure Persian Gulf security.

At that time Iran resorted to a series of diplomatic steps to express its dissatisfaction with the positions of the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf on issues of regional security. After the Damascus conference, 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Any type of security system that does not include Iran will have no future and is doomed to failure.

It seemed that the Arab capitals understood Iran's positions. At any rate, comforting words were uttered by high-ranking Arab diplomats and they promised that Iran's interests would be taken into consideration in the future. But as we see, the Arab countries of the Persian Gulf had nothing more than comforting words to offer as Tehran's participants were again not invited to Oman. Apparently, the understanding that the Iranian leadership has on security is differing more and more with the

understanding the Persian Gulf shaykhs have. Iran decisively opposes a U.S. presence in the Persian Gulf and believes that the regional countries themselves should ensure their security, but the Arab countries are not confident that they can achieve this independently. For example, Kuwait has signed a defense pact with the United States, and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, and the UAE are expected to sign similar bilateral agreements in the near future.

Our analyst Yuriy Andreyev writes in conclusion: Thus, Iran has stayed out of the regional security system, and at the same time, it is obvious that without Iran's participation in this system it is impossible to ensure regional stability.

East Europe

Meeting To Discuss E. European Market

PM2310125791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

["Own Information" report: "Market Instead of CEMA"]

[Text] Eliminating CEMA does not mean eliminating the East European market. The latter is more necessary than ever today.

The USSR Union of Leaseholders and Entrepreneurs, led by P. Bunich, the Foreign Policy Association, headed by E. Shevardnadze, the Foreign Ministry, led by B. Pankin, and the Association of Parliamentarians, headed by K. Lubenchenko, have decided to hold in December a representative congress which will bring together all the social forces interested in reviving the East European market. It is expected that government structures engaged in the economy, unions, associations, and concerns of entrepreneurs, associations of parliamentarians, scientific establishments, and other organizations will take part in it.

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister on Export Plan

PM2410134791 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Oct 91 p 3

[Interview with Czechoslovak Foreign Minister J. Dienstbier by correspondent Ye. Chernykh in Prague; date not given]

[Text] Prague—There has been a great deal of talk of a "Marshall Plan" for the USSR and East Europe. However, we today learned of yet another plan in this area—the Dienstbier Plan. We give the floor to architect of the plan—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier.

[Dienstbier] Last May I delivered a lecture at Harvard. We were discussing the need to help the Soviet Union. First and foremost, we had extensive cooperation, our products were in great demand on the Soviet market. So I suggested that Western finance within the framework of aid to the USSR could be channeled into buying goods and foodstuffs from Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary, with subsequent shipment to the USSR. But the Western Governments should not support any exchange of obsolete items—everything should be produced to a high standard. Western funds should go to modernize Soviet, Czechoslovak, Polish, and Hungarian industry. For instance, the money obtained by Czechoslovakia for its goods would be used for its industrial needs..

[Chernykh] That is a tempting proposal. It would solve your problems and ours at the same time. But the West was not particularly enthusiastic about the plan.

[Dienstbier] It was seen as some kind of intellectual exercise. However, this year people did start considering the proposal. A. Yakovlev has told me that this winter could be of decisive importance for the fate of the fragile Soviet democracy. So initially food, textiles, footwear, and other goods which we find hard to sell could be bought in Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia and shipped to the USSR. But at the second, more important stage, we would draw up joint projects which could be put to Western banks or other institutions prepared to grant loans. It is important that the projects be up to world standards. The institutions will issue funds to implement them. This would mean that we would not be trying to artificially support obsolete sectors or production facilities. There would be a guarantee that the Soviet Union would not receive any junk from these countries, as was the case in the past.

This plan has now met with universal approval at the political level. I have talked with Gorbachev, Pankin, Yavlinskiy, Baker, and French Finance Minister P. Beregovoy. But nothing has started moving yet. I repeat—there are no political obstacles. Everything depends on enterprises, regions, and republics.

For instance, Czechoslovakia could specifically help to bring about a comprehensive resolution of the serious problem of the harvest, say, in a specific village or oblast. We are prepared to provide comprehensive supplies of everything—from tank trucks to granaries.

[Chernykh] The initial Soviet reaction to the "Dienstbier Plan" was negative. But opinions have now changed...

[Dienstbier] I think that that August putsch played a positive role in this respect. Things which used to take 10-15 years to resolve are now being resolved in a week. When I congratulated Gorbachev I said that we had moved 20 years between 21 August and 17 November. You did it in three days.

West Europe

French Oil Company President Meets Gorbachev

LD2310152591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1408 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Bezbrezhnyy]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Oct (TASS)—Developing initiatives aimed at extensive and long-term cooperation with Soviet partners, Serge Tchourouk, president of "Total", a French gas and oil company, arrived in the Kremlin today to meet Mikhail Gorbachev. Their conversation has just started.

First of all, the guest congratulated the Soviet leader on the signing of the treaty on economic community. He noted that a global approach is needed in this sphere more than anywhere else.

Serge Tchourouk also met today with Ivan Silayev, chairman of the Interrepublican Economic Committee, and Aleksandr Rutskoy, Russian vice president.

Discusses Plans With Silayev

LD2310150491 Moscow TASS in English 1413 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Bezbrezhny]

[Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—Ivan Silayev, chairman of the Interrepublican Economic Committee, met the president of the French oil company Total, Serge Tchourouk, who confided his company's plans to "settle down in the Soviet Union for a long time", today.

"With our Soviet counterparts, we are going to carry out a dynamic policy of fuel prospecting, extraction and processing", said the French businessman. The company has already signed a number of contracts with Soviet oil companies. For instance, it founded a joint venture with Tatarneft. Similiar talks are now under way with Ukhtaneftegasgeologiya and Komineft companies.

Mr. Tchourouk especially stressed that his company's policy of cooperation with the Soviet republics is to observe the republics' property rights on their natural resources and to protect the environment.

For his part, Silayev assured the French businessman that he would do everything to create favourable conditions for Total's undertakings in the USSR.

'Stable Cooperation' Seen

OW2310223891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1603 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Wednesday, chairman of the Inter-Republican Economic Committee, Ivan Silayev, met vith president of the French oil company, Total, Mr. Serge Tchourouk and promised to give every assistance in broadening its contacts with Soviet partners. Ivan Silayev offered the French company to set up its own network of gas stations and, on the basis of an arms enterprise to undergo conversion, to set up a joint-stock society for putting out equipment for producing and processing hydro-carbons.

Mr. Tchuruk said that Total, one of the world's biggest oil companies, intended to establish stable cooperation with Soviet partners and was among the first foreign companies to have made steady progress on the Soviet market. The company is interested in both long-term and short-term projects and proposes the most wide-spread forms of international cooperation, whereby about three fourths of the income remains in the country where oil is produced. Besides that, the French company is ready to supply the Soviet Union with food, medicines and consumer goods.

Total has already signed a contract with Tatarstan's amalgamation Tatneft for resuming the production of oil in the abandoned oil wells. Besides that, its is completing talks with the Republic of Komi on a project envisaging the investment of 3 billion dollars, on the French side, in oil production.

Mr. Tchuruk said, however, that the distribution of power functions and the absence of well-developed laws was a major obstacle.

EC Envoy Announces Increase in Assistance

LD2410093491 Moscow TASS in English 0906 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 24 TASS—The European Community intends to increase economic aid to the Soviet Union by up to 6 billion ECU's [European currency units]. They will allocate free food supplies and credits amounting to 2 billion ECU's and will suggest North America and Japan to make similar contributions, Michael Emerson, the European Community's (CEC) envoy in Moscow, said.

Mikhail Gorbachev urged CEC Deputy Chairman Christofersen to allot 8.5 billion ECU's for the purpose.

Half of the allocation will go for food purchases for the Soviet Union from East European countries, Emerson said.

The new donation of 2 billion ECU's depends on several preconditions, important steps on the part of the Soviet Union and are closely linked to the developing international situation.

The Soviet Union can only move forward by relying on three fundamental principles: democracy, market relations and financial stability, Emerson said.

High-Level G-7 Delegation To Visit Moscow

LD2310135891 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1230 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] Next week a top-level delegation of seven industrially developed Western countries headed by Nigel Wicks, a representative of the British Treasury, is leaving for Moscow. Our London correspondent Aleksandr Malikov describes the aims of the visit.

[Malikov] The delegation headed by Nigel Wicks will leave for Moscow next week, not so much to gather information about the state of the economy and people's

needs as to present the republics' leaders with the facts of life as it is. The Seven could sum them up in the following message: There can be no talk of any aid or diplomatic recognition for any republic unless it signs the new economic treaty. I can foresee that there will probably be those who dislike this, but by directly targeting socialist ambitions with their tough terms, the Seven are relying on their own experience. This experience, as Norman Lamont, British chancellor of the exchequer, has noted, states that a system based on private ownership will not produce growth unless matters of a juridical and constitutional kind which regulate its activity are sorted out. That is why, until this happens, any discussion of reforms from the Western point of view are pointless.

Jacques Attali, head of the London-based European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, states frankly that, and I quote, we have to tell the republics that no project can be financed without there being a clear idea of trade relations and on questions of debt and defense. Incidentally, the militarist ambitions of certain republics concern the West no less than the danger of the Union's economic collapse.

So perhaps we should not bite the hand that feeds us just when it has, finally, reached that point. Surely, the shortsightedness of some of our republican leaders is not so bad that they cannot see what Jacques Attali has seen in the life of our country today? In the East, people have grown accustomed to observing discipline out of fear of the gulag. In the West discipline is backed up by respect for laws. But in the Soviet Union today, people have found themselves in a land where neither fear nor laws have any force. And for the economy this could be the very worst possible thing.

TASS Notes Spy Role of UK Embassy Chauffeur

LD2310184891 Moscow TASS in English 1801 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—The chauffeur of Rodric Braithwaite, the British ambassador to the Soviet Union, has confessed to the Soviet literary weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA he has been spying for the Soviet secret police for the last 20 years.

Konstantin Demakhin said he was the chauffeur of seven British ambassadors to the Soviet Union but quit spying shortly before the August putsch in the Soviet Union, newspaper correspondent Yuri Shchekochikhin said.

"I'd like everybody to know the truth should anything happen to me," Demakhin said.

The newspaper begins a series of publications about the affair. The first story tells about how Demakhin was recruited by the KGB.

Latin America & Caribbean

Cuban Opposition Leader Views Human Rights

LD2310205391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 2203 GMT 22 Oct 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] A committee has been set up in Moscow to defend human rights in Cuba:

[Begin correspondent Yu. Rakcheyeva recording] Carlos Alberto Montaner, Cuban opposition leader, held a news conference at the Czechoslovak Embassy today. A Cuban Liberal Union delegation is in Moscow at the invitation of Russian parliamentary deputies. Answering questions from journalists, Montaner commented that the opposition's main goal is the country's peaceful transition from the regime of Fidel Castro to freedom and democracy. The Cuban delegation expressed anxiety at the persecution of dissidents in their country and at the inability of the present leadership to make positive changes. [end recording]

Commentator on Reopening of Letelier Case

PY2410022691 Moscow Radio Moscow in Spanish to Latin America 0000 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Valentin Mashkin commentary]

[Text] The trial of two high-ranking officers in Pinochet's former secret police for participating in the 1976 murder of Orlando Letelier in Washington continues. Commentator Valentin Mashkin says the following:

We are talking about General Manuel Contreras, retired, a former chief of DINA [National Intelligence Directorate], and his deputy, Brigadier Pedro Espinoza. They are accused of planning the murder of Orlando Letelier, a member of Salvador Allende's government.

Orlando Letelier, who defended Chile in the United States, was something like a secret ambassador of the Chilean resistance. His reports on the cruel crimes committed by the military junta inspired hatred among Pinochet followers and placed some U.S. circles who backed the coup in an uncomfortable situation. This demonstrates that Letelier was a headache for many people.

Although his death was never completely clarified, some of the individuals involved in the attack have already been punished. Now it is the turn of Manuel Contreras and Pedro Espinoza. The trial against them began three months ago, but now I would say that it has taken an

unexpected—perhaps tragicomic—turn. I mean the defense's declaration that the attack was planned by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, Cuban leader Fidel Castro, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and U.S. President George Bush, who was CIA director at the time when Letelier was murdered.

Friends, can you imagine such a sinister plot by Fidel Castro and George Bush? I personally cannot. Such an alliance cannot but inspire laughter. The accusation against Carlos Andres Perez is just as absurd. He is a respected person in Latin America and the rest of the world. As for our president, it must be pointed out that Mikhail Gorbachev was secretary of the Stavropol Communist Party regional committee in 1976, which means that he was not even a top party or national leader. In those days, he was very far from international affairs.

In conclusion, the defense lawyers for Manuel Contreras and Pedro Espinoza have invented a foolish story the size of a cathedral as nothing better to reject the charges and dissipate the doubts about Pinochet's involvement in the plot, which is a more believable version than the assertion that an ill-fated foursome made up of these personalities organized the attack with the aim of discrediting Pinochet in order to oust him from power.

Political & Social

Text of Appeal to Ukrainian Leadership

PM2310114391 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Oct 91 First Edition p 1

["Text" of Gorbachev's, republic leaders' appeal to Ukraine: "To the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet"—ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA headline]

[Text] Esteemed Ukrainian people's deputies!

This appeal to you is dictated by a desire to extricate the country as quickly as possible from the grave economic and political crisis and to return people's lives to normal. Today it is a question of the destiny of our multinational homeland. And we are profoundly convinced that only together can our peoples resolve the urgent problems of their development and build a worthy future for themselves and their descendants.

The changes which have occurred in the country since the August events have created a fundamentally new political situation. The obstacles in the way of society's cardinal democratic renewal are being removed. Conditions are evolving so that each people can freely choose the form of its statehood.

Freedom and independence are the natural right of every people and conditions of its development.

Freedom and independence are also preconditions for the peoples' unification on a truly voluntary and equal basis.

Such a Union is vitally necessary. The entire history of our multinational state and the deep-seated traditions of our peoples' lives speak for this. The urgent needs of many millions of people and fundamental international factors are for this.

For centuries our peoples created a great spiritual culture together. If they were to go separate ways today, this would be an irretrievable loss both for each of them and for world civilization.

We know what state our economy is in now. But it is a fact that it developed for decades within the framework of a unified national economic complex. If you were to tear this thick fabric in two or three places, the entire canvas would start to fray and disintegrate. People in all republics and parts of the country are already feeling the pernicious consequences of the rupture of economic ties.

Over the long years of our multinational state's development the nations and peoples have moved about its vast space, you might say. Millions and even tens of millions of people now live outside their own national republics. Demographic upheavals would be an inevitable consequence of their isolation. The dramatic fate of hundreds of thousands of refugees is apparent to everyone.

The military might of our superpower was created by the very hard labor and sacrifices of several generations. Today, together with other states, we are traveling the path of decisively reducing it and bringing it into line with the doctrine of defense sufficiency. But the USSR remains one of the two greatest nuclear powers. We bear responsibility both to our own people and to the whole world for ensuring that this terrible force is under reliable control.

Let us be frank. There is still prejudice against the Union in people's minds. Many negative phenomena associated with the rigid unitary model of state structure live on and are still far from being removed from people's memory. But it is now a question of a new Union, in which the very foundations of the economic and political structure, the socially geared market economy, political and ideological pluralism, and the multiparty system will serve as a guarantee of the free development of every nation and every citizen.

It was for just such a Union that the overwhelming majority of the population of the country as a whole and in each of the republics voted in the referendum on 17 March this year.

The building of the new Union has begun. The signing of the Economic Community Treaty is of great significance in this connection. Work on the draft treaty on the Union of Sovereign States has resumed. In accordance with the joint statement of the USSR president and the leaders of nine republics, the session of the country's Supreme Soviet of the new convocation opened in Moscow 21 October by decision of the Fifth Congress of USSR People's Deputies.

We address you, esteemed elected representatives of the people, with an expression of hope that the Ukraine's representatives will take an active part in this collective work. The Ukraine is one of the largest republics in the Union. Its role in our country's development and in everything of which our peoples can be rightly proud is indispensable. We want to believe that it will make an equally worthy contribution also to the building of the new, united family of peoples, of which the great Kobzar dreamed.

Let us state frankly: We cannot imagine the Union without the Ukraine. We are convinced that the multinational people of the Ukraine also cannot conceive of the future without relations of alliance with all our country's peoples, with whom they are linked by a history going back many centuries.

Accept, esteemed deputies, our wishes for the successful work of the republic's Supreme Soviet.

We send our very kind feelings and wishes to the people of the fraternal Ukraine.

[Signed] M. Gorbachev, B. Yeltsin, S. Shushkevich, N. Nazarbayev, I. Karimov, A. Mutalibov, A. Akayev, S. Niyazov, A. Iskandarov.

KGB Chief Bakatin Interviewed on Changes

PM2310115191 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 23 Oct 91 p 2

[Interview with USSR KGB Chairman V.V. Bakatin, by V. Filin; place and date not given: "Alone and Unprotected. None of V. Bakatin's Predecessors Ever Permitted Such a Thing"]

[Text] The chairman of the USSR KGB, once one of the world's most powerful special services, arrived at the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA Editorial Office in simple style in an ordinary "Volga," without guards and unaccompanied.

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, what are you now in charge of?

[Bakatin] No longer the KGB—at any rate, not the KGB of old.

By decision of the State Council, interrepublic committees will be set up for intelligence, counterintelligence, and border protection. The republics will have their own state security structures.

Intelligence, of course, means the First Main Directorate. Apart from the Second Main Directorate, the Counterintelligence Committee will comprise the current Sixth and Fourth Directorates (transport and industry), subunits for the fight against organized crime, and a corresponding infrastructure to service them. Roughly the same thing will happen to the Border Guards—they will leave the KGB and will work independently, in coordination with us. We will then set up a council of the leaders of republic state security committees. We will invite them and work in more or less the way that the country's State Council currently operates. The current KGB has become bloated, it is excessively overstaffed and no work is evident. Our duties are information first, counterintelligence second, and crime third.

[Filin] In world terms this is similar to the U.S. model.

[Bakatin] Yes, there is something in common with the FBI.

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, aren't you talking as a former militiaman?

[Bakatin] I am not a militiaman and have never said that the MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] is a perfect structure. On the contrary, I have always said and written that the KGB, for instance, is far less corrupt. Although I now have some doubts about that. But let's look at what the KGB does. First and foremost—intelligence work, the acquisition of information. I receive huge piles of information summaries, but so far everything I have seen and read is at the level of the information on Radio "Liberty" or in KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA.

Now let's take counterintelligence. How many spies have we caught recently? You can count them on the fingers of one hand. A man came to see me recently—he works in the so-called "English service"—and he said: "I'm retiring and I've got nothing to look back on. I'm ashamed that my life has been for nothing. It's not just that we never caught anyone, I was always doing things for no reason, and didn't know who I was tailing." Perhaps that is an isolated case. We can't catch spies every day, of course. And these things need to be done—but more effectively and professionally, in order to ensure that there is some purpose to the work, rather than just "listening" to everyone and "watching" everyone. The KGB's most successful line—combating dissidence, and spreading disinformation—is now a thing of the past. This means that we need to clear away all the organizational rudiments of this kind of work from the KGB system.

In their place we need to seriously tackle the fight against smuggling, the arms trade, the drugs trade, terrorism, and corruption. We need a rational organizational setup which could coordinate counterintelligence activity across the territory and, at the same time, deal with particularly dangerous interstate and interrepublic crimes. Of course, there may be contradictions with the MVD. But both the KGB and the MVD have changed now, and so have criminals. The militia cannot cope, and we should help them for the time being. And another point to address is that we need information, intended for the top echelons of power, on what actually poses a threat to the state and the economy. The same is true of questions of interethnic relations or, for instance, the safety of nuclear weapons.

So far the information level has been zero. I can reveal the following terrible secret and you can even print it. I recently received information (top secret information!) that Lithuania is receiving advice from the Americans on how to set up its own state security organs. But who else should they get that information from? The Second Main Directorate?

[Filin] Who or what will be affected by the proposed cuts?

[Bakatin] Mainly people at the end of their careers—such people currently make up 25 percent of the KGB. They can retire on full pension. Let's give the young a chance.

[Filin] What funds will be used to finance all the KGB reorganization?

[Bakatin] The KGB has always been 100-percent financed out of the Union budget. We will look at our spending and squeeze it considerably. The current KGB budget is 6.4 billion rubles. But it will be less next year.

[Filin] Officers will be interested in their salaries...

[Bakatin] Since we are cutting back by a third, we will raise salaries. We already have. Moreover, under the

forthcoming free pricing conditions everyone in state service—along with pensioners and students—is hoping for indexation.

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, will you remain leader of the future KGB?

[Bakatin] I knew beforehand that the KGB would not continue. But I agreed to head this department. Quite frankly, I'm not the kind of person who would enjoy heading counterintelligence operations. And then there are so many secrets which cannot be talked about today. These include some that are rather distasteful, and the longer you stay in this position the more of them you have to take on board. And that too is difficult. But since I've ended up here, I am working at the job.

[Filin] Not a single Kryuchkov decree has been rescinded yet.

[Bakatin] Not just Kryuchkov decrees, but those of his predecessors Chebrikov and Andropov, too. If I'm not mistaken, during my time at the MVD there were approximately 4,500 instructions and orders in force. Here at the KGB there's something on the order of 6,000. All of them in force. We now need to think primarily about the legislative base. We need laws on intelligence, operational investigation work, the right to information, and the protection of state secrets. We need to elaborate a new concept of state security, although it is not clear what kind of state we have.

[Filin] In your view, how should the foreign special services now act with respect to the USSR?

[Bakatin] They are operating against us just the way they always did. I think that things have even gotten easier for them, since everything can be bought and sold—all the more so for hard currency. Nothing is sacred. And there is general chaos. The "iron curtain" has been lifted, any Visas and Registration Department document can be bought literally for $100, so "they" have far fewer problems than we do. I don't think we now need to compete with the United States, for instance, we need to soberly assess ourselves.

The main thing for all of us is the question of professionalism. We have gotten used to considering ourselves professionals. Although what kind of professionals are we if we know nothing of the market economy or if, for instance, tape recordings of the interrogation of State Committee for the State of Emergency members end up being published by DER SPIEGEL?

[Filin] That is just the trade in information...

[Bakatin] So we should know what will be traded! We should have some idea of how it will happen! Incidentally, it is said that the CIA will now be making friends with us. Not so much, in their opinion, to let us reach their level. They are rather making fun of us. They are far more professional and better equipped in terms of equipment, methodology, or whatever. Although we still follow our old tradition of believing that we are "ahead of the entire planet."

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, all forecasts state that at troubled times such as now, the number of traitors and turncoats goes up. Won't this affect our intelligence effort?

[Bakatin] Whenever there is chaos or uncertainty in a country there is no doubt that its citizens' moral spirit does not improve. But, quite frankly, intelligence officers are not the poorest people in this country, and they have not had such a bad life. Of course, the number of turncoats will increase, but at what cost? Before they served an idea, now there is no idea. These will most likely be weak people.

[Filin] What about Pankin's statement that there will no longer be any "underground" intelligence officers?

[Bakatin] That was rather hasty. Intelligence officers have to have "cover stories." And we will continue to ensure in the future that nobody—neither newspaper editors, ambassadors, nor anyone else—knows that they have intelligence or counterintelligence officers working for them. This is possible and necessary. It is said that there will be nobody from the KGB working at the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting. I do not object to that. Equally, we will be where we need to be. Otherwise we will not have a counterintelligence effort.

[Filin] What is now happening to "Alpha"?

[Bakatin] "Alpha" is being placed under the president's jurisdiction. It has been removed from the KGB. Actually it might collapse all by itself. It is now part of the bodyguard [okhrana] service, but has not been trained for protection duties. Its role is combating terrorists. They have their professional pride and understanding of their tasks. And the main thing is that they do not have the bodyguard mentality. They should not lose their professionalism. If they are only tasked with accompanying black limousines they will just take off.

[Filin] What about the surveillance service?

[Bakatin] It will continue. Its problems should be solved by specialists. It is said that it would be better for all departments to have their own "number seven" [reference to KGB Seventh Chief Directorate]. The MVD and the Moscow Main Administration for Internal Affairs currently have their own "number sevens." And both the USSR KGB and the Moscow KGB Administration will continue to have this service.

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, whose orders or commands will the technical KGB subunits, the main computing center, and the 12th Department carry out? What will the Russian KGB inherit?

[Bakatin] The entire automated database will remain with central counterintelligence. But we will use it on an absolutely equal basis with the Russian KGB. Russia should have its own information bank. In principle I am very favorably disposed to the idea of Russia wanting to borrow some things from the KGB's central apparatus. We will share things fraternally. As regards the 12th service, I think that it needs to be properly hived off into a separate subunit—as in the case in many countries. It could be placed under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Communications or, perhaps, given over to the Russian KGB. And, provided there is a law allowing the use of phone taps in the interests of law-enforcement organs, we will give it orders. In Britain, for instance, I believe that just three ministers can authorize phone taps—the foreign secretary, the home secretary, and the Northern Ireland secretary. That is why I believe that the 12th Department will disappear entirely in the future, to make sure that it does not become an "informer" for some future "boss."

Incidentally, when I arrived there were around 700 taps in place. Now there are around 200 left. I checked the entire list to make sure that it did not contain a single politician or religious figure, but only criminals or people suspected of bribery and corruption. Or people suspected of spying.

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, you've been in the job for just over a month, right?

[Bakatin] Yes. It will be two months on the 24th.

[Filin] Have you lost or made friends during this period?

[Bakatin] I have not lost any.

[Filin] And who are your friends?

[Bakatin] I have no friends at work. My friends are all from my younger days. We have kept in touch. I have some friends here.

[Filin] They say you're friendly with some cosmonauts?

[Bakatin] Yes, we have good, friendly relations with Sasha Serebrov and Viktor Savinykh. We play tennis together. I have normal relations with some other cosmonauts. They even let me join their dacha cooperative. I'm building a dacha. I spent 40 days there before the putsch. It was the first time I'd had a vacation like that.

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, they say you wrote a book on your vacation?

[Bakatin] Yes, I wouldn't have gotten the dacha built if it hadn't been for this book—it takes money, after all.

[Filin] What's the book about?

[Bakatin] It's about how I became a minister and-...stopped being a minister. A final chapter will be added on the present day. It's like a slice of my life.

[Filin] You have said that the KGB apparatus was not as innocent as was thought.

[Bakatin] I can see that the KGB is a system full of holes; information leaks out of it. Many journalists writing about the KGB simply use firsthand information. And they have their sources and agents inside the KGB. That's the first point. Second, there have been loads of scandals, particularly about housing distribution. I have seen lists of the scandalous "leadership" apartment block on Chekhov Street, for instance. Of course, I'm not saying that the leadership should live in huts, but there must be some limits. For instance, when a high-ranking leader already has an excellent apartment, but wants an outstanding one, gets it, and then organizes similar apartments for his children and grandchildren... That doesn't fit into any framework. And within the KGB apparatus, despite the existence of all kinds of orders and housing commissions, housing distribution is in a terrible mess. I recently got a letter from the border guards main directorate. There had been an order from Kryuchkov that 60 apartments in Moscow should have been allocated to border guards last year. None of them have yet received one. That's the way it is—ordinary people like border guards get nothing, while the leadership gets several apartments each. It was said that the KGB had the Cheka conscience of Feliks Edmundovich. Forgive me, but it doesn't...

[Filin] Vadim Viktorovich, you give the impression of being quite a gentle, intellectual person. How do you give orders?

[Bakatin] I am tough. Really tough. Why did Shebarshin leave? Shebarshin left because, as an intelligent man, he wanted to. But at the same time he decided to see whether he could dictate things to me. Although he had probably guessed beforehand that he couldn't. And, knowing how it would turn out, he wanted to play out a small scene of "who is the chief of intelligence and why are deputies appointed without his knowledge?" I don't have to ask permission to appoint someone somewhere. Intelligence is a clannish activity. It doesn't like this kind of thing. I understand that. But I specially appointed an outsider. An honest person. Shebarshin should have realized this if he wanted to stay, instead of trying something on. This is in answer to your question of whether I am gentle or not. For better or worse, I never put up with people who try things on. We can't work together? If you can't, don't. And no hard feelings.

[Filin] You probably have some outsiders in your life now. Guards, for instance?

[Bakatin] I do have a three-man bodyguard, but, as a rule, I don't take them with me.

[Filin] Do you carry a weapon?

[Bakatin] I never have. What am I supposed to do if something happens, shoot back? That's not my style. [Bakatin ends]

In conclusion, the KGB chairman autographed my copy of Barron's book "The KGB Today." He wrote in it: "I have nothing to do with this. V. Bakatin."

KGB's Oleynikov on Reform, Security Problems

AU2410104291 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 24 Oct 91 p 4

[Interview with KGB Deputy Chief Anatoliy Oleynikov by Michael Lohmeyer; place and date not given: "A Wolf Without Teeth"]

[Text] [Lohmeyer] Has the task workbook of the KGB been rewritten after the putsch?

[Oleynikov] Yes, completely. We will conclude the reform of the KGB and implement the program that Parliament passes on to us. Our focal issues are combating crime as well as maintaining stability and legality in the country. In addition, we are dealing with counterespionage. The KGB in its old form does not exist anymore.

[Lohmeyer] Are there still KGB troops?

[Oleynikov] No, we have made all divisions subordinate to the Defense Ministry. These were mainly border protection troops, which are now organized in an independent executive body. We even gave up command over the "Alpha Group" special antiterror unit. It is now subordinate to the Presidential Council.

[Lohmeyer] How many people will be dismissed? Who will have to leave?

[Oleynikov] First of all, 10 percent of the posts given to us have not been filled. Nor will they be filled in the future. In addition, we will lay off 35 to 40 percent of our employees. We will use three criteria: first, the part taken during the putsch is of paramount importance; second, we want to remove those who have passed a certain age limit. This will be defined from case to case, but in general one can say that 25 years of service in the KGB are enough. And third, people will be sent home at their own request.

[Lohmeyer] Will there be trials of KGB members?

[Oleynikov] Trials of the former KGB leaders are already taking place. It is entirely the decision of the judiciary whether further indictments of KGB members will be made as a result of the putsch.

However, I do not believe that procedures will be initiated on the basis of KGB work since 1918. Over the past 25 years there have not been any repressive measures against large parts of the population. The KGB mainly dealt with serious criminals. There were measures against dissidents; during World War II, war crimes were committed. We see guilt on our side, but it did not affect so many. The main work was the collection and passing on of information. Those who did that are not guilty to a major degree. After 1918 we had some bloody experiences; now we want to solve the problem in a civilized manner.

The KGB was often overestimated—at home and abroad. Total supervision of the USSR would never have been possible. People were more afraid than necessary, and the KGB kept quiet about the issue. A long-standing employee said: "The KGB is a wolf without teeth."

[Lohmeyer] Will the archives be opened?

[Oleynikov] This is a decision that has to be made by Parliament. We have comprehensive archives. However, there is no one who really knows how much is stored about whom. The KGB is against revealing the names of its agents and employees, who are completely normal citizens. These files we want to keep under lock and key.

[Lohmeyer] How many people are working for the KGB? How big is its budget?

[Oleynikov] I cannot answer either question. The KGB is still subject to secrecy. However, I believe that this will change soon.

[Lohmeyer] The KGB has repeatedly been linked with the attack on Pope John Paul II in 1981. Did Ali Agca act at the order of the KGB?

[Oleynikov] The examination of all material has not yet been concluded. I cannot yet tell you anything about the exact state of affairs, only that there is not yet a conclusive report.

[Lohmeyer] What are the Soviet Union's biggest security problems?

[Oleynikov] They are closely linked with the unstable regions of the union. Hundreds of thousands have been uprooted and this favors the activities of 10 crime syndicates, known to us. They trade in drugs and weapons and do not stop at murder to order, hijacking planes, attacks, taking hostages, kidnapping, and blackmail.

[Lohmeyer] Which weapons were stolen and where?

[Oleynikov] Nuclear weapons are not affected, they are strictly guarded. Other weapons—pistols, guns, ammunition—have already been stolen in the armament enterprises. Army camps are attacked, weapons are produced underground, some groups are even armed by the local authorities.

[Lohmeyer] How high is the crime rate?

[Oleynikov] We do not get exact data everywhere. Officially, the crime rate is rising by 15 to 18 percent; however, I estimate the percentage of undetected crimes at 30 percent.

Call for Harsh Measures Against Nuclear Spread

LD2310230591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1410 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Commentary by TASS military affairs observer Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] [No dateline as received] The passing by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the first readings of draft laws on the defense and the Armed Forces of the republic has produced a storm of negative reaction, literally throughout the entire world and is considered by specialists as an irresponsible step which poses a threat to the still fragile structure of military-political stability on our planet.

The laws provide, in particular, for the all-Union strategic forces, that is, nuclear armaments, deployed in the territory of the Ukraine to be transferred to the control of the republic's president. No references by the legislators in Kiev to the republic's "nuclear-free principles" and to the temporary character of the Ukraine's nuclear status can conceal the fact that this is a matter of an attempt to undermine the spirit and letter of the very important international treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

The nonproliferation treaty, of which the Soviet Union is a signatory, prohibits the transfer of nuclear weapons or control over them to nonnuclear states. The broadening of the "nuclear club" by even one new member could sharply weaken the barriers in the way of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, provide fresh impetus for a gradual spread of means of mass destruction through all the continents and thereby considerably increase the risk of nuclear war.

The decision of the legislators in Kiev will doubtlessly have the most serious international consequences. "We do not want," the LOS ANGELES TIMES correspondent was told by official spokesmen of the United States Administration, "one nuclear power to disintegrate into three or four nuclear powers, and we are ready to put political and economic pressure on independent republics so that they do not strive to achieve control over the use of these armaments".

D. Howell, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the British Parliament's House of Commons, has called the decision of the Ukrainian legislators a "grave threat to peace". "This is an example of the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the appearance of new nuclear powers, which horrifies all of us", he emphasized.

The statement in New York by USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister V. Petrovskiy that Soviet strategic forces will remain unified under a strictly centralized system of combat control which fully excludes the possibility of their unsanctioned use has been greeted with understanding in the West.

Indeed the stakes here are also high. Any harsh measure is justified in the cause of preventing the slightest chance of nuclear weapons being used by irresponsible groups or individuals, and obviously the Ukrainian parliamentarians should realize this.

Border Guard Draft Includes United Command

LD2310182191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1627 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Znamenskiy]

Moscow, 23 Oct (TASS)—What will be the tasks, functions and principles of the activity of the future Committee for Guarding the USSR State Border? The administrations of the frontier troops which recently were part of the USSR KGB's structure are actively working on this issue now, as TASS has learned. The draft of the relevant provisions which is being drawn up includes a united command of the frontier troops.

Other documents being prepared are related to organizing the guarding of the state frontier on land, sea, lakes, and other water bodies as well as in the USSR economic zone. They will soon be submitted to the USSR president for examination. On 22 October, 1991, the USSR State Council decreed that the State Security Committee should be abolished. On the basis of it a central intelligence service of the USSR, an interrepublican security service, and the Committee for Guarding the USSR State Border are being set up as central bodies of the state administration of the union.

Gorbachev Said Involved in Aid Diversion

LD2310190191 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1745 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Interview with V. Guliyev, adviser to the Russian justice minister, by correspondent N. Svanidze, on 23 October; place not given; from the "Vesti" newscast—recorded]

[Text] [Presenter Yuriy Rostov] There is yet another, extremely important dimension to the general crisis facing Mikhail Gorbachev today. In principle, according to our information, the Soviet president could be accused of breaking the law. This refers to yesterday's statement at the Russian parliament that he was probably directly involved in the transfer to foreign communist parties of funds received by our country for humanitarian aid. In many other countries, facts such as these would lead to the president's resignation.

[V. Guliyev, adviser to Russian justice minister] Obviously, at the level of common sense, there is information that leading CPSU structures were involved in the coup d'etat of 18 to 21 August.

[Correspondent N. Svanidze] Following yesterday's hearings into the CPSU's financial abuses, public attention has been focused on the Russian Ministry of Justice. The minister himself, Nikolay Fedorov, is taking a break and categorically refusing to talk to journalists, and the

"Vesti" program's questions are receiving authoritative answers from Vladimir Guliyev, the minister's adviser. He stated that there is a whole mountain of financial documents compromising the party apparatus which they did not have time to destroy on Staraya Ploshchad, and confirmed the reality of the CPSU ban in its accustomed form. According to the minister's adviser, the documents show that there is a whole series of financial matters relating to the CPSU's help for foreign communist parties which could be settled only with the involvement of the general secretary, and therefore....

[Guliyev] Of course, without obtaining information from Mikhail Sergeyevich, it is impossible to conduct an investigation, whether financial or any other kind. But I would refrain from levelling any sort of criminal charges now against anybody at all, and especially against the country's president. I have already said that the president is not just a physical being, a citizen, but a symbol of the state. On the other hand, though, everyone is equal before the law.

Gorbachev Invalidates Economic Sabotage Decree

LD2110183491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1817 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Moscow, 21 Oct (TASS)—Mikhail Gorbachev, president of the USSR, has issued a decree deeming invalid his decree of 26 January 1991, "On measures to combat economic sabotage and other crimes in the sphere of the economy." [passage omitted]

Rescindment of Decree Applauded

PM2410093791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[V. Romanyuk report: "USSR President Rescinds Antimarket Decree"]

[Text] USSR President M. Gorbachev has just rescinded his decree of 26 January 1991 "On Measures To Ensure the Struggle Against Economic Sabotage and Other Crimes in the Economic Sphere."

Among the package of decrees which issued from the president's apparatus at that time this was the most antimarket decree. And it was no coincidence that it elicited a unanimous protest among employers. A "tightening of screws" did not happen then, although employers were considerably put out.

While supporting in principle the policy of combating economic sabotage, the emergent class of Soviet businessmen was resolutely opposed to the opportunities for arbitrariness which the decree created for the actions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the KGB. These organs got every opportunity to carry out searches, unauthorized inspections and stocktaking, sequestrations of accounts, and even production stoppages, which inflict material and moral losses on totally innocent people. The decree manifestly ran counter to the laws on enterprises in the USSR, on leasing, cooperatives, and banks—which in itself is inadmissible in a state which considers itself a rule-of-law state.

I attended an aktiv meeting of the Lessees and Employers Union and also the Science and Industry Union, at which a protest was made at the presidential decree. And I thought at that time: These are people who already have something to lose—they are real owners.

The USSR president is changing, and his views on the fate of our economy and on its driving forces are changing. In fact, this decree itself is just the first official reaction to the proposals of the recently created Enterprise Council under the USSR president—on the development of market relations in the country. A whole number of decrees and also acts of executive organs of power, which limit the potential for entrepreneurial activity and which, in the opinion of businessmen, also need to be rescinded, are still in force.

V. Kolmogorov, vice president of the Science and Industry Union, commented in conversation with me that the rescinding of antimarket decrees and acts is only part of the program. The employers council is drawing up a whole range of proposals aimed at supporting and developing enterprise in the country—on a broad legal basis. Emergent business needs more serious guarantees, and so problems of financial and economic activity, ownership, and property liability need to be worked out in depth at a legislative level.

Petrovskiy on de Cuellar, Republics' UN Entry

LD2410123491 Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 24 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov]

[Text] United Nations October 24 TASS—"The Soviet Union will support Javier Perez de Cuellar if he is proposed for the post of U.N. secretary-general for a third term", stated Vladimir Petrovskiy, first deputy Soviet foreign minister, at a news conference here on Wednesday.

"The election of a new secretary-general is a very important moment. The current secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, has made a major contribution to the improvement not only of the general image of the United Nations, but also the whole activity of the organization. The U.N. owes him a great deal for its actual revival. If he wishes to remain at his post for a third term, no doubt, his candidacy will be supported by my country and, I think, by many other states as well", Petrovskiy said.

Speaking about the Soviet republics' possible entry into the United Nations, while retaining their membership in the USSR he said: "It is a new field of Soviet diplomatic activity. The union government is supporting the republics' aspirations to play an active role both in the U.N. and in its specialised agencies. We are backing the republics in their efforts to enter the U.N. structures.

What is more, the composition of the Soviet delegation in all international bodies differs very much from what it was before", stressed the first deputy Soviet foreign minister.

"There is no doubt the Soviet Union must remain a permanent member of the Security Council. This necessity is admitted by all the states forming the Soviet Union. The Soviet republics may play an active part in the General Assembly and in the specialised organs of the United Nations. But while those matters are being settled, we see an opportunity for republican representatives to participate in the work of the Soviet missions attached to the international organisations", added Petrovskiy.

"The U.N.O. is now entering into a period of major reforms but at the same time it is necessary to take into account the existing structures and to retain them. Reforms should be made only to those areas which do not affect the U.N. Charter. A lot should be done for improving the administrative mechanism of the U.N. Secretariat. I do not think the Security Council should be reformed in the foreseeable future. We should look for ways of making better use of the potential it has within the U.N. Charter", emphasised the Soviet diplomat, answering questions about the possible enlargement of the Security Council membership.

TASS Carries Press Review for 24 Oct

LD2410084491 Moscow TASS in English 0823 GMT 24 Oct 91

["Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow October 24 TASS—PRAVDA carries a selection of reports about the strike movement in various parts of the country under the general heading "Trade Unions Start Autumn Offensive." "The working-class movement in the biggest labour collectives of St. Petersburg has been boosted by the expectation of painful measures to be taken by the Russian leadership, primarily the liberalisation of prices, which can seriously undermine the living standards of the people for whom their wages are the only source of income," the newspaper writes. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA reports the strikes of public health workers and teachers in the city of Kemerovo. Teachers of Ivanovo are preparing for a strike. They demand social protection for workers of the public education system and students. KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA reports a meeting, held on the Manezhnaya Square in Moscow. Responding to the call of the Moscow Federation of Trade Unions, representatives of Moscow labour collectives came to the meeting to demand the adoption of laws changing the workers' wage system and the creation of a clear and understandable mechanism of privatisation.

Newspapers give wide coverage to the situation in the hotbeds of tension in the country. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA carries a report of its correspondent from South Ossetia. He writes that the city of Tskhinvali is subjected to missile shelling by members of Georgian armed groups almost every day. There is no end to the conflict in sight, the correspondent stresses.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes about a complicated situation in the Chechen-Ingush republic. It stresses that "the three days, given by the Russian president to leaders of the executive committee of the All-National Congress of the Chechen People for disbanding armed units and handing in weapons to the Interior Ministry authorities, is expiring." "None of the demands has been met. The only thing achieved so far is that the blockade has been removed from the government buildings and the local television," NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes.

The Dnestr region will not take part in the presidential elections in Moldavia, a session of the parliament of the Dnestr republic has decided. "We cannot take part in the election of the president of a foreign country, because our republic proclaimed independence late in August," Igor Smirnov, leader of the Dnestr republic, said in an interview with SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an interview with Colonel General Boris Pyankov, appointed recently head of the Soviet civil defence system. He stresses the need for the preservation of a single civil defence system of the country. In his opinion, one cannot rule out a possibility of serious accidents, similar to the Chernobyl accident. This is why a single inter-republican civil defence service is needed for dealing with the consequences of such accidents, natural calamities and other emergency situations.

Yegor Ligachev, former Politburo member, has emphatically refuted statements about his complicity in the August coup attempt. He said in an interview with SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA that he intends to appeal to court because of such accusations. Ligachev denounced actions of the people who took part in the coup attempt, but said "they are not traitors of their motherland. They were just looking for a way out of the crisis the country is living through."

The Russian parliament began the discussion of the problem of the Kuril islands, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes. The newspaper's article gives some historic and diplomatic information on the problem, which became a stumbling block in Soviet-Japanese relations. Various views were expressed, including the idea that the four Kuril islands, which became the subject of the argument, have historically belonged to Russia, the newspaper writes.

According to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, Yeltsin discussed with the military a possibility of dealing a nuclear blow at the Ukraine. This has been reported to a newspaper correspondent by Konstantin Masik, first deputy prime minister of the Ukraine. According to Masik, "Yeltsin said he had discussed this possibility with the military, but there are no technical ways for it."

Commenting on the decision of the Ukrainian parliament, which approved the republic's defence doctrine providing for the creation of its own army and navy, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA stresses that "Ukrainian independence is beginning with the creation of its own army and, which is especially important, with the attempt to acquire its own nuclear potential. This shows the inner weakness of the Ukrainian nationalist movement better than any public opinion poll."

PRAVDA publishes an interview with Michael Emerson, head of the Moscow mission of the commission of European communities. He says that the European Economic Community intends to bring the volume of aid to the USSR to six billion ECU [European currency units]. With this in view they will give a new commitment to the G-7 countries to render the USSR free food assistance and credits worth two billion ECU and will suggest that North America and Japan make similar contributions.

The Azerbaijani side regards the treaty on economic community as a step towards the signing of a political treaty, Azerbaijani President Ayaz Mutalibov said in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. He believes the attitude of Azerbaijan to joining the political union of republics changed after the adoption of the independence act by the Azerbaijani parliament.

TRUD describes Babrak Karmal as a "hostage of the Kremlin". The former Afghan leader expressed in a TRUD interview his attitude to the Afghan problem. He described the April revolution in Afghanistan as an "enormous crime against the Afghan people." In the opinion of Babrak Karmal, the revolution was carried out against his will, against the will of many leaders of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

Baltic Affairs

NATO Session Admits Baltics as 'Associates'

OW2310164291 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1626 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A session of the North-Atlantic Assembly in Madrid October 22 admitted Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia as its associate members.

It has also adopted a resolution saying that the rapid withdrawal of Soviet troops from the Baltics would speed up the strengthening of their sovereignty.

Lithuanian Home Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius has met with NATO Secretary General Manfred Woerner to discuss problems of cooperation between the NATO and Lithuania.

The Lithuanian radio reports the Lithuanian delegation met in Madrid with the King of Spain Juan Carlos I who unofficially expressed desire to visit Lithuania.

Estonia

Relations With Russia To Be Established 24 Oct

OW2310205991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2019 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Foreign Ministers of Estonia and Russia—Lennart Meri and Andrey Kozyrev—will sign a protocol in Moscow Oct 24 on establishing diplomatic relations between the two republics.

Estonia's Deputy Foreign Minister Enn Liimets has explained to BALTFAX that Russia's recognition of Estonia's independence immediately after the failed putsch sped up the process of its recognition on the part of western countries. "On Thursday in Moscow the diplomatic relations between the two neighbours will be given a practical shape", said Liimets who added that an ambassador for Russia is yet to be chosen.

Interior Minister Urges Control of Borders

OW2310142191 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1130 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Speaking before the Estonian parliament Tuesday [22 October], Estonian Interior Minister Olev Laanjarv said: "It would be naive to talk about the liquidation of crime. However, if we want to find out who is engaged in organized crime in Estonia and to stop its growth, we should control our own borders".

The minister noted that the Estonian Interior Ministry hopes for active cooperation in combatting crime with the republican Defense Ministry which has not yet been created. In the opinion of Mr. Laanjarv, the military patriotic organization "Kaitceliit" could be subordinated to that new ministry.

Asked where he will find 1,500 policemen to replace those who will be fired if the tough variant of the law on citizenship is passed, and how in that case to staff the police prefectures of the north-eastern region of Estonia (with predominantly Russian population), Mr. Laanjarv said that he would abide by decisions of the Estonian Supreme Council.

Authorities Take Control of Border Airspace

LD2310221191 Berlin ADN in German 2138 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Tallinn (ADN)—Permission to cross the Estonian border along the air corridor between Tallinn and Helsinki will be given to foreign aircraft only by Estonian authorities effective immediately. The Estonian news agency ETA reports today that the relevant authorization has been given to the Baltic republic's Air Transportation Ministry by the Soviet Civil Aviation Ministry.

Savisaar, Sobchak Hold Unofficial Meeting

OW2210185891 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1708 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As BALTFAX has been informed by the press service of the Estonian government, an unofficial meeting was held Oct 20 in Narva-Jyesuu, Estonia, between the Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar and the leader of the USSR delegation at the Soviet-Estonian talks, Mayor of St. Petersburg Anatoliy Sobchak. The two statesmen discussed questions involved in the coming talks and considered problems of relations between Russia and the Estonian republic.

Savisaar Questioned on New Intelligence Body

LD2310095991

[Editorial Report] Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian at 1000 GMT on 22 October carries a three-minute report by correspondent Gunnar Paal from the Supreme Council and government building, where Premier Edgar Savisaar was questioned earlier on the subject of the new Investigation Bureau, which handles intelligence matters.

Paal interviews Hillar Eller, member of the commission investigating the origins and background of the bureau. Eller says that Savisaar answered many of the questions indirectly but that is how such an organization—a secret service in effect—should be run, without details being made public knowledge. Eller goes on: "But I think that

Supreme Council deputies in the hall here are of the opinion that indeed, an independent state must have a security service which ensures protection of our statehood, deals with terrorism, smuggling, and other such matters, as well as ensures protection of state secrets, technology, and business secrets; there must be a service of this kind." He adds that the bureau must be run according to the law. A draft that would legalize the bureau has been drawn up by the commission and has now been submitted to both the legal and the state defense committees; once endorsed it will be discussed at a Supreme Council plenary session.

Tallinn PAEVALEHT in Estonian on 24 September carried a report by journalist Toomas Sildam that Savisaar on 8 September ordered the creation of the republic Investigation Bureau. Previously, a bureau of this kind had been mentioned at a post-coup government session as being necessary at a certain point.

Tallin Garrison Officers' Complaint Reported

LD2210212891 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 0700 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] Over the weekend ESTONIYA published a resolution adopted by representatives who were elected at a meeting of officers at Tallinn garrison. The officers find that decisions of political importance continue to be made without consultation with servicemen and their families. The Savisaar-Shaposhnikov agreement was prepared in secret, says a document published in ESTONIYA. Not one of the top leaders of the USSR Ministry of Defense, the Baltic Fleet, and the Baltic Military District who visited Tallinn after the events in August discussed matters with local officers or servicemen. The conception for military reform has been completed without any consultation with those who may face retirement or being sent into the reserves. This is what officers of Tallinn think. In conclusion, it is stated that officers of Tallinn garrison—proceeding from all this—are forced to think of themselves and their families, and to seek ways and means for social protection.

This material is reported in today's RAHVA HAAL. It notes that the document is serious.

Russian Activists Block Rail Traffic to Tallinn

OW2410032691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2000 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Oct. 23 about a hundred activists of the Russian National-Patriotic Movement blocked for hours traffic at a railway station near St. Petersburg on a line to Tallinn. The pickets carried posters protesting against "robbing Russia's resources for Estonia." They stopped two freight trains bound for Estonia, but the militia helped lift the blockade and restore the movement.

The National-Patriots pledged, though, to stage more similar actions if cooperation with Estonia remains "unfavourable for Russia."

Latvia

Godmanis on World Bank-IMF Delegation Tasks

LD2210193591 Riga Radio Riga International in Latvian 2030 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Excerpt] We offer for your attention a recording from the news conference at which Latvian Premier Ivars Godmanis spoke today about the World Bank and International Monetary Fund annual meeting in Bangkok, at which the premiers of all three Baltic republics spoke.

[Begin recording] [Godmanis] Briefly, I'd like to tell you about the situation in which we find ourselves: A process of settling in has begun, in any case, with the pending arrival here of a commission of experts of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. This commission is arriving here in relation to the system which is to be applied, independently of what the country might want to enter into in these institutions. Of course, it will examine the entire economic situation. Basically it is interested in two things. Most of all these bodies are shocked at our external economic balance, so that we are to (?redress) the balance, both in hard currency and in so-called [word indistinct] currency. That is what shocks them most, because, no doubt, inclusion in this financial organization and the relevant credit according to request is very essentially connected with how far we can repay this money. The International Monetary Fund does not assign money, it does not grant money—it only lends it—in the best cases from three to five years at a bank credit rate that is of course lower than on the market, but never a gift, however. The World Bank is a little more unique, (?so) they give their special questions as to how we have got into a very poor position on the world list—and in their figures, at present it is $390 a year [as heard], which is their own conclusion made by a group [word indistinct]. The Commission will arrive here at the beginning of November.

We in the government are forming an institution concerned only with the International Monetary Fund-World Bank commission. [passage omitted]

Riga Protests Over Belgian Plane Incident

LD2310174491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1600 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] According to Latvian radio, Riga issued a protest to Moscow when on Sunday the Soviet authorities forbade the landing of the aircraft carrying the Belgian foreign minister. Latvian radio says that despite the independence of Latvia the Soviet authorities still control Latvian air space.

Cooperation Talks With Russia at 'Impasse'

OW2410042491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2000 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The talks between Latvia and Russia on economic cooperation have got into an impasse for Russia demands all payments in hard currency—writes the Latvian newspaper DIENA. Officials of the Russian Federation's Ministry of Economy responsible for preparing interstate treaties have told their Latvian counterparts that all the commodities—oil and oil products, gas, coal, metals, etc.,—will be supplied now for convertible currency.

Latvia's Premier Ivars Godmanis remarked on the issue that "settling in hard currency would yield no good results."

Soviet-Latvian Negotiator Discusses Progress

OW2210181991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1548 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Having returned from Moscow, Janis Dinevics, leader of the Latvian delegation at the Soviet-Latvian negotiations chairman of the Latvian Popular Front group in Parliament, spoke at the group's meeting yesterday about the progress of the negotiations and the range of issues discussed.

Originally the negotiations were intended to be either trilateral (between Latvia, the USSR and Russia) or bilateral (between Latvia and the USSR but with a considerable number of representatives from Russia), said Mr Dinevics. But the meetings Latvian officials had in the Russian Foreign Ministry made it clear that there should be parallel Latvian-Russian negotiations on all issues including the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Latvia.

On October 18 Mr. Dinevics had a meeting with Russian Vice-President Aleksander Rutskoy, who suggested his own plan to resolve the Soviet troops issue, namely that neither side should make any claims to the property of the other, that all property on Latvian territory should belong to the Latvian Republic and that the warehouses, garages and other facilities owned by garrisons should be used as a basis for joint ventures which Russia would be supplying with raw materials.

People's Militia Commanders, Staff Sworn In

PM2310090391 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[Colonel M. Ziyeminysh report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Militia Established"]

[Text] Riga—The first stage of the formation of a people's militia in the republic ended with a solemn oath-taking ceremony in the Latvian Supreme Council. A total of 60 battalion commanders and staff workers, including three women, took the oath. It is believed that by doing this, these people have "absolved themselves from the vows and oaths sworn to the military formations of other states." And the task of the people's militiamen, as the republic's Supreme Council Chairman A. Gorbunovs said in his congratulatory speech—he is the militia commander as well—is "to guard Latvian soil, bearing arms whenever necessary."

The immediate organizer of all militia activity is the chief of staff, whose duties are currently performed by 29-year-old Girts Kristovskis, a construction engineer by profession, member of the Supreme Council Commission on Defense and Internal Affairs, and a master of sport in javelin throwing.

Land To Be Sold Only to Latvian Citizens

OW2210224591 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2002 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Latvian parliament has passed in the first reading today, Oct 22, a constitutional law on the rights and duties of its citizens. One of its clauses provides for equal rights to hold official posts, another states that only Latvian citizens can acquire land and other resources, except when a state treaty by the Latvian republic has it otherwise.

All male citizens are obliged for a period of government service.

The law also guarantees freedom of enterprise, movement, etc.

Bisers Announces New Price Policy for 1992

OW2410040791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2000 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Latvia's Deputy-Premier Ilmars Bisers has said in an interview with the newspaper DIENA that free prices will be introduced in the republic beginning with January 1, 1992. Circumstances may force the government to float the prices—he said—as early as next month, though the question has not been discussed.

Bisers stressed that the government is working on a mechanism of compensations, but the budget is short of the needed funds. He conceded that a certain group of goods may be left with the prices intact for a time, such as jewelry and alcohol.

As we have reported, free prices on energy resources have been allowed today, Oct 23.

No Fuel for Private Use Until 1 Nov

OW2410050191 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1700 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As the newspaper DIENA was informed by the Deputy Energy Minister Z. Vlumbergs, private drivers will not be sold gas in Latvia till Nov 1. The stocks are out at the government gas stores, the new supplies go to meet industrial demand. Latvia needs 2,400 tons of gas a day.

Blumbergs says crude oil may be purchased, but there are no capacities for refining it. That makes it impossible to bring 300,000 tons of oil from Tyumen earned by Latvian road builders (the agreement was to settle in oil).

Lithuania

Soviet Interference Over Airspace Protested

OW2310141291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Lithuanian sources say on October 21 several Soviet fighters forced a Danish airliner flying to Vilnius with experts of the International Health Organization on board to leave Lithuania's airspace. The airliner had to land in Warsaw and could continue its flight to Vilnius only after negotiations with corresponding Soviet organizations. As Lithuanian Means of Communication Minister Jonas Birziskis said, a similar incident took place recently when a Hungarian airliner bound for Vilnius was forced to fly back to Budapest.

In a telephone conversation with USSR Defense Minister Evgeniy Shaposhnikov October 22 Lithuanian Vice-Premier Zigmas Vaisvila informed him about these two incidents.

According to the Lithuanian government press office, Mr. Shaposhnikov promised that such incidents will never repeat.

Mr. Vaisvila also said that the Soviet Defense Ministry is dragging out the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Lithuania and the transfer of property to the republic.

He demanded that the Soviet Defense Ministry immediately send a working group to Lithuania to resolve the above mentioned problems.

Mr. Shaposhnikov noted that the USSR First Deputy Chief of Staff Anatoliy Kleimenov is in charge of settling these problems.

In a telephone conversation with Mr. Vaisvila October 22 Mr. Kleimenov said he would come to Lithuania later this week.

Landsbergis, Russian Parliamentary Official Meet

OW2410043791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2000 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The head of Lithuanian parliament Vitautas Landsbergis received in Vilnius Oct 23 a member of Russia's parliament Presidium, chairman of the Committee on Inter-republican Relations and Regional Policies Aleksandr Granberg. The sides discussed the ratification by Russia's parliament of the treaty between the two republics.

It is known that Lithuanian parliament ratified the treaty during the August putsch in Moscow. Russia intends to do so next month.

Aleksandr Granberg told a BALTFAX correspondent that some of Russia's deputies think that "caution should be exercised" in relations with the former Soviet republics. That's one of the reasons why the treaty has not been ratified by Russia's parliament. The same goes for the treaties with Estonia and Latvia, signed much earlier than with Lithuania.

Aleksandr Granberg also mentioned that the chief issue in the talks between Lithuania and the USSR should be the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Lithuania and the guarding of borders.

Granberg and Landsbergis also discussed bilateral trade and economic relations and the political situation in both republics.

In the afternoon Russia's spokesman met with Lithuania's Premier Gediminas Vagnorius.

Vagnorius Discusses Union Debts With Kaifu

LD2010162591 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1100 GMT 18 Oct 91

[Text] The government delegation of the Republic of Lithuania is concluding its three-day visit to Japan.

Independent Lithuania, striving to attract foreign investments and trade,intends to pay the part of the Soviet Union foreign debt which has been invested in the economy of the former Soviet republic. This was stated in Tokyo by Lithuanian Prime Minister Gediminas Vagnorius. He stressed that Lithuania, annexed by force in 1940, would not take any responsibility for debts linked with the Soviet Union's military expenditure.

At his meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, the Lithuanian prime minister urged Japan to cooperate with Lithuania in the economic sphere. Toshiki Kaifu promised Gediminas Vagnorius that Japan would render economic and technical aid to Lithuania in accordance with the plan of the group of 24, which includes 12 European Community countries and

12 other rich states, including Japan. This plan will be discussed at the end of October and in the middle of November.

Gediminas Vagnorius will leave Japan by air tomorrow for Seoul to meet South Korea's President No Tae-u.

Economic Cooperation Talks Begun With Russia

OW2410044291 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1700 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Deputy Managing Director of the Volga Automobile Plant A. Zibirev has notified the Lithuanian government of suspending sales of automobiles, spare parts, materials, and other products, as the newspaper LIETUVOS RITAS has been informed by the spokesman of the Lithuanian Economics Ministry Kestutis Miniotas. The official explained that Russia had offered the latest models produced by the Volga plant at $10,000 a car. At the same time Russia is ready to buy Lithuanian meat at $1,600 per ton.

Talks between the two republics on economic cooperation are known to have started. The next round will be held in Moscow Oct 24. Both sides have offered materials and manufactures and quoted their prices.

Vaisvila Views Curbs on Ex-KGB Members

PM2310133991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Nikolay Lashkevich report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "KGB Agents Advised To Own Up"]

[Text] Vilnius—Former USSR KGB staffers and agents will be unable to occupy leadership posts in ministries, departments, and other state services for five years.

A resolution to this effect has been adopted by the Lithuanian Government. All these people must resign by 1 January 1992. The government drew attention to the fact that the activity of people who continue to cooperate with the KGB will be regarded as a state crime, and they will have criminal charges brought against them. In conversation with your IZVESTIYA correspondent Lithuanian Vice Premier Z. Vaisvila refrained from commenting on the KGB agent network lists which the government may have in its possession. He stressed that under Article 62 of the Lithuanian Criminal Code voluntary confession or repudiation of cooperation in the services of a foreign state exempt people from criminal liability, and it would therefore be better if leading workers of the state services submitted their resignations beforehand, without waiting to be exposed. At the same time he acknowledged that the resolution is in part designed to exert psychological pressure; however, in his words, it is essential to clear out those who have sullied themselves by cooperating with the KGB.

Envoy Trying To Buy Small Arms in Russia

PM2210144791 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 91 p 2

[Nikolay Kireyev dispatch: "Lithuanian Envoy Comes To Get Weapons"]

[Text] Tula—On 21 February, a review in PRAVDA entitled "Chairman of the Georgian Republic Council of Ministers Offers Tula Inhabitants Tangerines in Exchange for Weapons," spoke about a letter sent to a Tula weapons plant. The now-disgraced Sigua offered not only citrus fruits but also meat, sausage, canned stew, and tobacco products... in exchange for pistols, submachine guns, and hunting rifles. The operation to arm Georgian gunmen did not take place.

And now there is a new mission. This time a personal one. Yu. Matonis, Lithuanian Republic deputy minister of internal affairs, has visited the weapon-manufacturing town. If we are to believe his statement made to one of the Tula newspapers, the visit was agreed to with V. Landsbergis. There was also prior agreement with the Union defense and MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] ministers. So, taking into account the close ties between the Tula and Lithuanian democrats, Mr. Matonis and his high command are hoping for a positive outcome. Indeed, it is hard to resist the temptation if clothes, shoes, television sets, and refrigerators are being offered in exchange for weapons...

Apparently the hungry weapons makers are facing a dilemma. A Kalashnikov submachine gun is not a magic wand, and you cannot cook it or make anything with it. People are saying that the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Council of Ministers leadership is promising to give the Tula inhabitants a license to sell weapons for currency and exchange that for goods. Although this story was not confirmed at the oblast soviet executive committee...

National Defense Conscription Plans Detailed

LD2410040691 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2230 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Today Lithuanian officials began the takeover of the central headquarters of the former Soviet Military Commissariat in Vilnius. In the provinces the buildings of that structure had been taken over before, so the takeover of the central commissariat comes as the final stage in the liquidation of the system forcibly imposed on Lithuania. [passage omitted]

About 7,000 young men of Lithuania, 19 to 27 years of age, are to be called up by the National Defense Department. This figure was given to Radio Vilnius today by (?Mr. Antanas Silavicius), chief of the mobilization office of the National Defense Department. The length of service will be 12 months, which is half the time youths had to serve in the Soviet Army and Air Force, to say nothing of the Navy, where the length of service was three years. But of the draftees who, owing to their

convictions or for some other reasons, cannot serve in a military unit will be given the possibility of an alternative labor service. That will mean working in various civilian spheres, mainly in the structures of the Ministry of Forestry, and health care. At present the national defense system has a total of 4,000 workplaces for alternative service, and it is likely that they will all be taken up because there is a shortage of barracks for those doing the active military service as the Soviet Army is in no hurry to withdraw from Lithuania.

(?Mr. Antanas Silavicius) told Radio Vilnius that the majority of the draftees will be distributed among four different types of service. [passage omitted]

[Begin (?Silavicius) recording] Some of the draftees will serve in regional units of commandants' offices; others will guard the Lithuanian borders; still other youths will do their service in the system of the Interior Ministry; and finally a special unit of guards of honor is being formed in Lithuania at the present.

The call up to the service in the national defense system comes at a time when opinions in society are divided as to whether Lithuania needs an army at all. It seems that the present government does not doubt this necessity, yet voices are heard claiming that Lithuania would do pretty well only with professional paramilitary services to guard the state borders, prisoners, and to act in case of natural disasters. [passage omitted]

Only citizens of the Republic of Lithuania will be drafted for national service. Opponents of Lithuania's independence are unlikely to adopt Lithuanian citizenship; consequently there should be no acute problem of army dodgers. The law on military service in its turn provides that youths with health troubles will not be drafted, nor will the students of ecclesiastical seminaries, or those citizens who have served a prison sentence of more than three years. [end recording]

Oil Supplies From Soviet Union 'Shrinking'

OW2410013391 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1500 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Jurgis Ilikevicius, General Director of the state enterprise "Lijetuvos Kuras" ("Lithuanian Fuel") told a news conference in Vilnius Tuesday that oil supplies from the Soviet Union to Lithuania, and therefore oil processing, are shrinking.

"I cannot promise that in the future our citizens will be able to buy gasoline daily," he said.

He also pointed out that, according to some reports, next year the Soviet Union plans to raise oil prices at least three times. The General Director found it difficult to answer what would be prices of gasoline in Lithuania.

Currently, a litre of gasoline costs 40-50 kopecks in the republic and one has to stand in long lines to buy it.

Mr. Ilikevicius said that over the past 9 months lO9

of the planned amount of gasoline has been sold in Lithuania. In his words, sales of other types of fuel were not as good: diesel fuel—90.4%; firewood—91.4%; coal—90%; and diesel oil—70%.

Supreme Soviet

Closed Meeting To Consider Yeltsin Veto

OW2310201091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1603 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to IF [INTERFAX] sources, on Wednesday [23 Wednesday], at a closed meeting, the Council of the Republic of the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet decided to consider Boris Yeltsin's veto on the law on the election of heads of administration, earlier approved by the deputies, at a joint sitting of the parliament's two chambers.

Kozyrev Discusses Relations With Japan

LD2310223991 Moscow TASS in English 2156 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—"Russia does not have superfluous territory, but we need internationally recognised borders in the east, same as they are in the west," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said today.

Speaking at the Chamber of Nationalities of the Russian Supreme Soviet at parliamentary hearings on the issue of the Kuril Islands, the minister stressed that the current negotiations concern not the transfer of the islands, but the settlement of the Soviet-Japanese border.

"We should heal this wound, and put an end to the harm done by the unsettled problem," said the minister.

Speaking of the 2.5 billion U.S. dollar Japanese emergency aid to the USSR, Kozyrev noted that "both sides do not connect it with the issue of the Kuril Islands".

The sale or transfer of the islands is inadmissible in no way [as received]—was the stand of head of the Sakhalin Region Administration Valentin Fyodorov, invited to the hearings. He spoke of the "mounting concern" of local residents provoked by the negotiations with Japan.

If we give away the islands, a chain reaction will follow throughout Russian territory, Fyodorov warned.

As long as we have strong differences as regards the fate of the islands, we cannot give them away, believes chairman of the Committee on International Affairs of the Russian Supreme Soviet Vladimir Lukin. He called for the expansion of cooperation with Japan and setting up of a bilateral parliamentary group to study disputable issues.

Kuril Islands Issue

LD2410075991 Moscow TASS in English 0603 GMT 24 Oct 91

[By Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow October 23 TASS—"Russia does not have superfluous territory, but we need internationally recognised borders in the East, same as they are in the West," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said today.

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Trade Unions Picket, Demand Minimum Wage

LD2410101191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0937 GMT 24 Oct 91

[By Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Oct (TASS)— Participants in today's Supreme Soviet session of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] were met by picketing Muscovites. This action was organized by the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia.

In particular, the pickets are demanding that all restrictions be lifted on the creation of a wage fund, that a minimum wage be set no lower than the cost of a minimum consumer basket, and that the monetary income and savings of citizens be index-linked to price rises.

Federation Affairs

Yeltsin To Submit Draft Constitution

LD2310193391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1833 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Oct (TASS)—The draft constitution of the Russian Federation is to be submitted to the Fifth Extraordinary Congress of Russia's People's Deputies which opens on 28 October—such is the decision taken today by the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Constitutional Commission. This task was entrusted to Constitutional Commission Chariman Boris Yeltsin. The examination of the draft at the congress does not mean that it will be adopted, noted the commission's secretary, Oleg Rumyantsev. The deputies will be able to voice their remarks, which will be taken into account when putting the finishing touches to the constitution. Yeltsin believes that the constitution of the Russian Federation can be adopted no earlier than next May.

Party To 'Lay Claims' to CPSU Property

OW2310235491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 23 Oct 91

["Congress of Democratic Party of Russian Communists To Open December 26"—INTERFAX headline; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "The Democratic Party of Russian Communists plans to lay claims to part of the Communist Party's property which it intends to use in the interests of the underpriviledged in this country," said Wednesday Vasiliy Lipitskiy, chairman of the party's board, at a press-conference in Moscow.

He spoke in favour of calling a party congress to respond to changes in the situation in the country since early August when the party had been registered as the Soviet Communist Party's democratic wing.

The congress will pass a new version of the Charter as well as a minimum programme, a document named "Guidelines" and principles for socio-democratic politics. The party is expected to change name for "Free Russia" [passage as received]—or some other appellation, according to chairman of the party.

Asked by IF [INTERFAX], Mr. Lipitskiy said that there exists in our society a broad base for a socialist ideology. "Our life is a fertile ground for it." He cited as an example the resucitation of trade union movement in Russia but refused to describe his party as socialistic. According to Mr. Lipitskiy, the party favoured vigorous progress toward the market and price liberalisation.

New Deputy Foreign Minister Appointed

LD2310215191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] The RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reports: Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, has signed instructions today on the appointment of Fyodor Shelov-Kovedyayev as RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] first deputy minister of foreign affairs. Fydor Shelov-Kovedyayev, born in 1956, is not a party member. He is a candidate of historical sciences. Before this appointment he was head of the subcommittee of the committee of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet for issues of inter- republican relations, regional policy and cooperation.

Procuracy on Speeches, Appeals for Violence

LD2310200191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] From TASS we have received a statement from the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Procuracy. It states that of late, in the Tatar Soviet Socialist Republic, the Chechen- Ingush Republic, Saratov oblast, and a number of other places, the representatives of some public associations and individual citizens are making speeches at rallies, gatherings, and to the mass media appealing for violent actions, even the use of arms. In this connection, the RSFSR Procuracy thinks it is necessary to make the following statement. I shall read it in full since the document is sufficiently important.

"Public appeals for the overthrow or change by force of the state and public system, for violating the integrity of RSFSR territory, for stirring up national and religious hatreds or differences, for incitement to mass disturbances, for resistance to authorities, for blocking transport communications, for encroaching on the normal operation of institutions, in accordance with the law that is in force, citizens are subject to criminal liability. Use of the mass media is not permitted for these purposes. For such offences, they bear liability in accordance with the procedures established by the law right up to the closing down of their issues or publications.

"The activity of any associations of citizens, including political parties, public organizations, and mass movements, aimed at the incitement of national hatred or differences, the application of force, the violation of RSFSR territorial integrity, is against the law and, according to the court's decision, liable to be banned. In some of the RSFSR republics, national guards and other armed formations are being set up whose activity, not being regulated by legislation, is also unlawful. The prosecutors of the republics, krays, and oblasts have been charged by the RSFSR procuracy to apply measures responding to all violations of the law."

Comparison of Yeltsin Address to Judges

CM2110105791

Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian on 19 October in its First Edition on page 2 carries an unattributed account of Russian President Boris Yeltsin's speech to the Congress of Russian Judges. The ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA item, entitled "Dismantling the Obsequious Judiciary: B.N. Yeltsin's Speech to the All-Russian Congress of Judges," has been compared with the Moscow Radio Rossii version published in the 17 October Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 53, revealing the following variations:

Column one, paragraph three, sentence two reads: ...cope with their new tasks without serious reform. (adding the word "new")

Column two, first full paragraph, sentence two reads: It was, indeed, for decades an obedient instrument... (adding the words "for decades")

Paragraph two, sentence three reads: ...deep, practical transformations, above all in the economy. (adding the words "above all")

Same paragraph, last sentence reads: ...state have collapsed. [new paragraph] The extent of... (omitting last two sentences of paragraph two)

Paragraph three, sentence six reads: ...now essentially complete. The basic aims... (omitting sentence);

Same paragraph, last sentence reads: ...Union ministries, except for three: the Defense Ministry... (omitting passage)

Page 54, column two, second full paragraph, last sentence reads: ...some departmental interests. That is precisely why the revival of trial by jury is one of the key ideas of the legal reform.

The introduction of this institution in 1864 marked a major event in our country's jurisprudence. Its restoration today will undoubtedly mark a step toward public and civilized judicial proceedings in Russia.

The voice of the conscience of the public will again be heard in court as before.

Establishing judicial control... (adding additional material)

Paragraph three, penultimate sentence reads: ...be able to finally do away with arbitrariness and violations... (supplying the words "finally do away with")

Paragraph four, end of sentence two reads: ...defense lawyers. The equivalent [adekvatnyy] status of the... (retranslating, adding editorial notation)

Page 55, column one, paragraph one, sentence two reads: ...federal court system with the establishment of federal district and rayon courts deserves our attention and support. The time has probably come to revive the institution of justices of the peace, whose activity was stopped by the relevant decree after October 1917.

We respect the RSFSR constituent republics' desire to have a system of justice which corresponds to their national traditions. And we are therefore opposed to the maintenance of the justice system inherent to a unitary state.

Court effectiveness also presupposes the use of more flexible forms of judicial procedure.

I consider that the proposals that certain categories of cases be examined by single judges or benches of three professional jurists deserve attention.

At the same time the streamlining of the activity of the court of primary jurisdiction needs to be compensated for by increased safeguards in the upper court.

In particular, citizens should have the right to a full review of cases under appeal procedure.

Esteemed delegates, I have dwelt upon just a few of the problems of the upcoming legal reform. I hope that the congress will carry out fruitful discussion, the results of which will be useful both to parliamentarians and president.

In my opinion... (adding additional material)

Paragraph two, penultimate sentence reads: ...and the necessary normative acts will be adopted. May I once again wish you success in your work. (retranslating, omitting passage)

Local Affairs

Chechen-Ingush Forces Ignore Disbandment Order

LD2310112291 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1000 GMT 23 Oct 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] In Checheno-Ingushetia the deadline at which the armed forces of the National Chechen Congress were to have been transformed has passed. They have taken the place of the authorities in this republic. The deadline was set in a statement by Russia's President Yeltsin. However to the contrary, representatives of the Executive Committee of the Chechen Congress have called on all those who can bear arms to gather at government buildings.

Tatarstan Supreme Soviet Discusses Independence

LD2310171291 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By Vitaly Dzhibuti and Nikolay Sorokin]

[Text] Kazan October 23 TASS—The building of the Tatarstan Supreme Soviet, where a parliament session

opened this afternoon, is surrounded by police. The parliament has returned to the discussion of an act on state independence, putting aside the most important economic laws.

Representatives of republican national-patriotic movements gathered again at the Svoboda Square as they did a week ago. Supporters of national movements came to Kazan from the city of Naberezhnye Chelny, head of the Kazan Interior Department Colonel Iskander Galimov told TASS.

In his words, only Kazan police are guarding the Supreme Soviet building. The police, equipped with shields, clubs and helmets, are ready for action. This is done to prevent possible provocations, Galimov said.

Deputies have considered draft resolutions of the republican Supreme Soviet on state independence of Tatarstan. They have decided to set up a conciliatory commission to elaborate a single document.

International Affairs

Justice Minister's Aide on Return of Honecker

LD2310153491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1412 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By Sergey Ryabikin]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Oct (TASS)—The matter of handing Erich Honecker over to the German authorities has already been decided. Everything depends on his state of health and on how soon the matter of his legal defense and a number of other problems are settled, Vladimir Guliyev, assistant to the Russian minister of justice, told a TASS correspondent today. He was commenting on the outcome of the Moscow talks between Nikolay Fedorov and Klaus Kinkel, the ministers of justice of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] and Germany. He declined to give a provisional date for the handing over of the former GDR leader.

The Russian leadership believes that Germany's application for Erich Honecker to be handed back should be satisfied. Moreover, the RSFSR leadership is in a position to influence the Union authorities so that the matter may be resolved in the manner requested by Germany, Vladimir Guliyev stated.

Erich Honecker is accused of giving the order to shoot people trying to cross the border into West Berlin and the FRG.

According to international aggreements on human rights, the minister's assistant said, any person who has a serious charge made against them, especially a criminal one, has the right to a legal trial. In this sense, Honecker has the right to face an independent trial and to present evidence of his innocence or mitigating circumstances.

The stance of the Russian leadership on this issue is juridically irreproachable, Guliyev declared.

Fedorov on Honecker Extradition

LD2310192291 Berlin ADN in German 1841 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Hamburg (ADN)—Russian Justice Minister Nikolay Fedorov has announced the extradition of Erich Honecker. After talks with his German counterpart, Klaus Kinkel, he stated to the "BILD" newspaper (Thursday edition): "I think the Russian Government can set in motion the return of Erich Honecker without taking the attitude of Soviet authorities into account. Even if we make this decision without taking into account the position of Mikhail Gorbachev, we will not be breaking any laws."

Fedorov said his government did not want to damage its good relations with Germany through a conflict over Honecker. "Only a German court can decide whether Honecker is innocent, as he thinks he is," Fedorov noted.

The Russian Justice Ministry was therefore of the same opinion as the Germans. For this reason it would give all its political support to Honecker coming before a court in Germany. If Honecker "is healthy enough, in the opinion of doctors, we have to extradite him,: Fedorov said. [passage omitted]

Japanese Trade Minister Meets With Yeltsin

LD2410003291 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2100 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Report by V. Vinogradov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] This morning President Yeltsin received in the Kremlin Eiichi Nakao, Japan's minister of international trade and industry. At the meeting economic aspects of cooperation with Japan were discussed. Yeltsin was interested primarily in the question as to what proportion of the $2.5 billion [of aid] would be allocated to Russia. The main needs were determined to be in agriculture and the oil and the gas industry.

Yeltsin Requests Landing Privileges

OW2310133991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1306 GMT 23 OCT 91

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 23 KYODO—Russian President Boris Yeltsin asked Japan's permission for Soviet military planes to land in Japan to transport the food and medicine Tokyo pledged in its 2.5 billion dollar emergency aid package, Japanese officials said Wednesday.

Yeltsin made the request in his meeting with Eiichi Nakao, visiting minister of international trade and industry, they said.

Following the lead of the European Community (EC), Japan decided earlier this month to extend 2.5 billion

dollars in emergency aid to the Soviet Union, which is facing a potentially crippling food shortage this winter.

The Japanese package includes 1.8 billion dollars in trade insurance and 200 million dollars in export credit, both aimed at invigorating stagnant bilateral trade, in addition to 500 million dollars in humanitarian assistance.

During the one-hour meeting in the Kremlin, Yeltsin also called for Japan's assistance in economic development in the Soviet Far East. He mentioned natural gas fields in Sakhalin and tourism in Vladivostok as areas which particularly need Japanese collaboration.

Nakao, in response, promised to give serious thought to the request, the officials said.

Yeltsin also reportedly sought Japanese advice on his republic's plan to turn its munitions industry to civilian use. He asked Nakao to send Japanese experts to help convert tank-manufacturing plants into factories to produce agricultural machinery, such as tractors.

The military-to-civilian industry program was originally put forward by Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry, which sent a special mission to the Soviet Union in July to study ways to put the idea into practice.

Based on the findings of the mission, Nakao on Monday presented an industry restructuring program to Ivan Silayev, chairman of the Soviet economic committee, which features the separation of military and civilian production facilities and further introduction of market mechanisms into the economy.

Nakao, for his part, called on Yeltsin to work together with Japan to resolve the nagging territorial dispute, which is the primary reason for Japan's reluctance to extend large-scale financial aid to the ailing Soviet economy, the Japanese officials said.

Yeltsin, however, refrained from making any concrete commitment, only saying he agrees to such an approach to the issue, they said.

Industry Official Hails Economic Revamp Proposal

OW2110130891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] Osaka, Oct. 21 KYODO—A senior official of the Russian Republic, welcoming Japan's proposal for industrial restructuring, said Monday the republic's government will promote the use of military facilities for production of consumer goods.

Viktor Glukhikh [name as received], a senior official at the Industry Ministry, made the remark in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE while commenting on a Japanese proposal for a swift industrial restructuring to promote transformation of the Soviet economy.

He is visiting Osaka to attend the second "global business opportunities convention" which opened Monday.

The proposal was made by Eiichi Nakao, minister of international trade and industry, in meeting with Soviet leaders in Moscow Monday.

Glukhikh said he welcomed the proposal because the republic's government is seriously considering ways to promote economic transformation.

Enterprises under supervision of the defense department are equipped with advanced technologies and able to cooperate with foreign companies in promoting the country's transition to a market economy, he said, adding that these defense-oriented corporations can be turned into private firms.

Glukhikh said the Russian Republic is rich in energy resources and priority should be given to development of industries to produce vitally needed commodities.

Only 20 percent of all industries in the republic manufacture consumer goods, he added.

He said Japan's advanced oil refining technology can help the Soviet Union increase oil production to earn foreign currencies, while the space industry can help foreign firms launch communications satellites and divert its earnings for production of commodities.

Glukhikh said the Ukraine Republic declined to sign an economic pact with Moscow because it is preoccupied with preparations for a presidential election.

He predicted that the republic will sooner or later participate in the treaty, adding all republics should participate in the pact to prevent the political unity of the Soviet Union from falling apart.

Bulgaria's Zhelev Continues Visit to Moscow

Leaders Sign Documents

LD2310161291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1520 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By Vladimir Abrosimov and Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Oct (TASS)—Future relations between Russia and Bulgaria will be developed on the basis of generally recognized norms of international law and with respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality, noninterference in each other's affairs, and mutually advantageous cooperation. This is stated in the declaration by the presidents of the two republics signed today, the last day of Bulgarian leader Zhelyu Zhelev's working visit to Russia. This, and a number of other documents, draw together the results of his talks with Boris Yeltsin.

Experts assess the declaration as the first important step towards concluding a future interstate treaty between Russia and Bulgaria. The other documents signed in St. Vladimir's Hall of the Great Kremlin Palace also work towards this end. They include agreements between the

governments of Russia and Bulgaria on trade and economic ties, scientific and technical cooperation, and on payments. A protocol was signed on establishing diplomatic relations between Russia and Bulgaria at the embassy level.

Zhelev, Yeltsin News Conference

LD2310173691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1650 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondents Vladimir Abrosimov and Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Oct (TASS)—The documents signed in the Kremlin today laid a new foundation for relations between Russia and Bulgaria as independent subjects of international law in the political, economic, scientific-technical and diplomatic spheres. Boris Yeltsin and Zhelyu Zhelev were in complete agreement with this evaluation. The presidents of the RSFSR and Bulgaria today held a news conference in the Kremlin on the results of the Bulgarian leader's working visit to the RSFSR.

Replying to a question from a TASS correspondent, the RSFSR leader described the first visit by Zhelev to Russia as head of the Bulgarian state as a "historic event." The dialogue that has been held, in his words, lays the foundations for constructing relations between the new Russia and the new Bulgaria on a basis of equal rights and mutual advantage.

We are not now establishing, but rather restoring relations between Bulgaria and Russia under new historical conditions, the Bulgarian leader stressed. Anyone in my place must comprehend the changes under way. We are making all efforts to restore our economy, and wish the same for Russia. Only in this way, Zhelyu Zhelev is convinced, is it possible to create a stable base for co-operation.

The first personal meeting of the two presidents took place in Moscow. It will be continued. As announced by Boris Yeltsin, he intends to visit Bulgaria next January.

Zhelyu Zhelev in turn stressed that having "for understandable reasons" established diplomatic relations with Russia first, Bulgaria is willing to establish them with the remaining union republics which have proclaimed sovereignty.

This evening the president of Bulgaria departed for home.

Gorbachev's Not Meeting With Zhelev Explained

LD2310215791 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 2000 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] The presidents of Russia and Bulgaria gave a news conference in the Kremlin today. Boris Yeltsin and Zhelyu Zhelev stressed the fundamental significance of the documents signed, which laid a new foundation for the relations between Russia and Bulgaria as independent subjects of international law in the political, economic, scientific and technical, and diplomatic spheres.

TASS correspondents asked the Bulgarian president why his meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev had not taken place, even though it was scheduled in the preliminary program for his stay. However, Boris Yeltsin was the first to reply to this question. As the initiator of the visit, he specified that in the program for the guest's stay, time for a meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev had not been envisaged but had been penciled in [rezervirovalos]. I talked to the president, Boris Yeltsin continued: The time is now such that it did not come off.

This evening the Bulgarian president left for home.

Moldova

Groups Set To Boycott Presidential Elections

People's Front Urges Boycott

AU2310215591 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1959 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/10/1991—The People's Front of Moldova reiterates its stand on presidential elections urging their boycotting.

At a recent meeting organized by the Front reiteration was made of ideas mentioned in its declaration, namely that after the proclamation of independence the first step should be the adoption of a constitution apt to produce rather a government form than presidential elections. It was also shown that, in accordance with the current legislation, the office of president of the republic would be outside any control of state institutions and of the public.

The Front imputes to President Snegur to have tried to concentrate the power in his hands and to have illegally released Mircea Druk from the office of prime minister.

As for the date of elections, the People's Front of Moldova considers that the term is quite short making the reorganization of political parties impossible and the election campaign inopportune because it requires a big amount of money.

At the aforesaid meeting the Front stated it was for a parliamentary republic and called upon the organization making up the national alliance "16 Decembrie" to boycott presidential elections.

Still the election campaign continues including as candidates for the presidency Mircea Snegur and Grigoriy Yeremey, former first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Moldova.

Dnestr Region To Follow Suit

LD2410114491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1255 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Excerpts] Kishinev, 23 Oct (TASS)—The session of the Supreme Soviet of the Dnestr Republic (Republic of Moldova) today adopted a decision not to participate in the Moldovan presidential election scheduled for 8 December. [passage omitted]

"We cannot participate in a foreign state's presidential election, for our Republic declared its independence at the end of August," Igor Smirnov, leader of the Dnestr region, who was recently released from custody, stated in a conversation with your TASS correspondent. "Instead, in accordance with the session's decision, we on the Left Bank will hold a referendum on the issue of independence, and elect our own president. I want to stress that we do not intend to put any obstacles in the way of Dnestr citizens who wish to vote for the president of Moldova."

"I consider the decision taken by the Dnestr region's leaders to boycott the election of the president of Moldova illegal and ill-considered," Viktor Pushkash, deputy chairman of the parliament of Moldova, told your TASS correspondent. According to him, on the matter of the election of the president of Moldova, the Dnestr Supreme Soviet "has found itself at one with its irreconcilable adversaries, certain leaders of the People's Front." "In my opinion," Viktor Pushkash stressed, "neither of them is interested in bringing peace to Moldova."

Further on Dnestr Election Stance

OW2310224691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1603 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Dnestr Republic (proclaimed more than a year ago on the predominantly Russian left bank of the Dnestr and not recognized by the government of Moldova) has decided to boycott the election of Moldovan president scheduled for December 8.

Head of the press service of the Dnestr Republic's Supreme Soviet, Valeriy Litskai, told IF [INTERFAX] that the parliament had adopted a law on the president of the Dnestr Republic who will be elected on December 1. Paralelly, a referendum on the republic's independence will be held on December 1.

Mr. Litskai said that on Thursday, the leaders of the Dnestr Republic would meet with Moldova's Prime Minister, Valeriy Muravskiy. These talks will be held because on Monday, in view of the financial disagreements between representatives of the Dnestr Republic and Kishinev who were on the conciliatory commission, the Dnestr Republic will terminate its supplies to Moldova and sell goods through exchanges.

Government Plans To Prevent Flight of Money

OW2410022891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A conciliatory commission established in Moldova to resolve the problems of the Dniester region accused Tiraspol of having foiled talks on Monday because, Tiraspol says, the Dniester region enterprises had not been paid for their exports to Moldova. The commission regards this explanation for the delay as lame and far-fetched.

The statement emphasizes that the money was only withheld from the banks that failed to be re-registered under the Republic of Moldova's law "On Banks and

Banking System." Thereby, the republican government plans to prevent the flight of money from Moldova.

On January 6 of this year the Supreme Soviet of the Dniester Soviet Republic that had been proclaimed on Moldova's territory passed its own law on banks and the banking system.

Under this law, payments to Moldova's budget via the Kishinev banks were stopped. The Dniester region is estimated to be over 700 million rubles in arrears to the Bank of Moldova.

Ukraine

Legislators Adopt Armed Forces Draft Laws

LD2310183591 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet resumed its fourth session today. Draft laws regulating the formation of national armed forces, on the defense of the Ukraine, and on the armed forces of the Ukraine were adopted at the first reading. During the debate, some deputies pointed to the lack of any mechanism for implementing individual provisions of the draft laws and the possibility of disagreements with the USSR Defense Ministry and other departments regarding the nationalization of the military districts located on Ukrainian territory and the Black Sea Fleet. Replying to questions from deputies, the Ukrainian defense minister said that a search for mutually acceptable solutions is under way with the USSR Defense Ministry. However, he admitted that the situation is difficult.

Details of Defense Discussions

PM2310123591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Sergey Tsikora: "Exactly the Opposite Response"]

[Text] Kiev—The USSR president's strong words addressed to those who are setting up their own armed forces in the republics of the former union prompted exactly the opposite reaction in the Ukraine.

Instead of the expected suspension of military organizational development, the republic parliament immediately embarked on the adoption of a package of laws on the formation of national armed forces.

Five draft laws have been submitted for discussion by the deputies: on the defense of the Ukraine, its armed forces, the republic guard, the state borders of the Ukraine and its own border forces. The documents submitted for discussion describe the structure and organs of military administration, the system for training military cadres and the manning of the Ukrainian armed forces and republic guard, the organization of logistic and financial support and social protection for servicemen, and the powers and duties of state organs in ensuring the defense capability of the Ukraine.

The blueprint for defense and the organizational development of the Ukrainian armed forces was presented to parliament by republic Defense Minister K. Morozov. It is assumed that during the discussion of these matters the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet will approve the commanders of the republic guard and border forces.

Further on Draft Defense Law

PM2310123191 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Oct 91 First Edition p 1

["Direct Line" report by correspondent Lieutenant Colonel N. Gorenko: "Draft Law on Defense Under Discussion"]

[Text] Kiev—At a Ukrainian Supreme Soviet session the deputies voted for a discussion of the terms for the republic's signing the interrepublican economic agreement. The signing date will depend on how constructive a course the discussion of the terms proposed by the center takes.

Ukrainian Defense Minister K. Morozov delivered a report on the draft law on defense. Discussing it, the deputies touched, in particular, on the nature of the future relationship between the republic Defense Ministry and the USSR Defense Ministry. Asked whether the creation of a Ukrainian army might not lead to a "Yugoslav scenario," K. Morozov replied that there was a mutual understanding with the union ministry and General Staff, which, in the minister's opinion, would not be breached. In general, the deputies were in favor of the adoption of the proposed draft.

Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman L. Kravchuk read out the Presidium's decision to give Major General of Aviation K. Morozov, the republic's defense minister, the rank of colonel general.

'Rumor and Gossip' on Army Denied

LD2310212191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By correspondent L. Ilchenko from Kiev; from the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer Medvedev] After failing to sign the treaty on an economic community, the Ukraine has adopted a resolution to set up its own armed forces. At present, an army of one and a half million, which is carrying out orders emanating from Moscow, is located on its territory.

[Ilchenko] I should immediately like to calm all of those who have recently heard about the supposed threatening intentions of our republic to immediately nationalize all armed forces on its territory and to dispose of this force at its own discretion. All of this is no more than common

rumor and gossip dreamed up by those who wish to discredit the independence proclaimed by the Ukraine.

Konstantin Morozov, the republic's minister of defense, also refuted this in his speech to the session. He emphasized that nationalization is a lengthy process which will certainly take place with the participation of the General Staff and the USSR Ministry of Defense. The laws about the defense of the Ukraine, its armed forces, the republican guard, state borders and border forces have already been adopted in their first reading.

The deputies devoted particular attention to the law on social and legal protection of servicemen carrying out their service on Ukrainian territory and members of their family. That law also contains the following unusual prohibition: Those serving in the armed forces do not have the right to be members of any parties or political movements. Henceforward, there will also be alternative service in the republic. [video shows Ukraine parliament in session]

More on Armed Forces Plans

PM2310215191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Oct 91 Union Edition p

[By S. Tsikora: "Ukraine To Establish Armed Forces. Package of Documents on Establishment of Own Armed Forces Passes First Reading in Ukrainian Parliament"]

[Text] Kiev—What will Ukraine's armed forces be like? Three arms of service will form their basis—ground forces, the air force, and the navy. The ground forces will also include the border troops, the republican guard, and civil defense troops. It is planned to complete the formation of Ukraine's armed forces by 1994-1995. By then they will number between 400,000 and 500,000 men which corresponds to the "standard" of European states with a population of 50 million.

In terms of actual units the Ukraine at present has only the border troops, which were transfered to its jurisdiction by a resolution of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet. They are commanded by Lieutenant General V. Gubenko, who was appointed by the republic parliament 22 October. Addressing the deputies, he said that the border troops will continue to focus their main attention on western and southern sections of the border. There will be no barbed wire, no control strip, nor any other attributes of the border on the frontier with Belarus, Russia, and Moldova.

There are many more problems with the establishment of the ground forces, the air force, and the navy. At present there is a 1.5 million-strong army in the Ukraine which carries out orders from Moscow. There is already more than enough friction in this respect between the center and Kiev, but for the time being each of the sides wants its own way: The Ukraine favors organizing its own armed forces on the basis of the forces which are already here, while the USSR Ministry of Defense wants "united and indivisible" forces.

There are no winners as yet in this "army tug-of-war," but the trend is becoming increasingly clear. The fall draftees are to remain to serve in the Ukraine. The republic Cabinet of Ministers has issued a ruling to this effect, and for the first time they will swear allegiance to the people of the Ukraine. Republic Minister of Defense Colonel General K. Morozov told the Supreme Soviet that a second message containing proposals for a specific mechanism to return Ukrainian citizens doing their compulsory military service to the republic had been dispatched to the USSR Ministry of Defense. Proposals have also been formulated for returning to the republic officers and warrant officers who are Ukrainian citizens or can claim Ukrainian citizenship under the law. For the time being the Ukrainian Defense Ministry has not received any answers to these proposals from the center.

Now about the national guard. Discussion of this issue in the Ukrainian Parliament has revealed that 6,000 youths are to be enlisted in these troops on a competitive basis as early as the fall of the current year. It is planned that these will be elite subunits which will be stationed in all oblast centers. In time, the national guard will number 30,000 servicemen, who will be subordinated to the Ukrainian president. It was noted at the session that 16 bases for the new formations are ready right now in the republic's oblasts. In addition to firearms, they will be equipped with armored carriers, tanks, helicopters and aircraft. The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet confirmed Colonel V. Kukharets as the first commander of the republican guard.

What conclusion can be drawn from what has been said so far? The legal basis for the establishment of Ukrainian national armed forces has been created. But the political conditions for resolving this problem remain to be agreed with the center.

Official Cited on Nuclear Weapons Issues

LD2310202591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1910 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By UKRINFORM correspondents Aleksandr Litvinov and Mikhail Melnik for TASS]

[Text] Kiev, 23 October (TASS)—The Ukraine has no intention of retaining nuclear weapons that are deployed on its territory and it has no plans for the creation of its own strategic troops. This was revealed today in an interview given to UKRINFORM correspondents by Pavel Mysnik, chairman of the subcommission of the Ukraine Supreme Soviet permanent commission on issues of defense and state security.

He stressed that the Ukraine will adhere to those interstate treaties which have been concluded by the former USSR including those on the reduction of strategic offensive weapons.

Issues, Pavel Mysnik said, connected with the Ukraine complying with the non-nuclear principles that it has proclaimed are now being worked out, including the

abolition of the nuclear weapons which are deployed on its territory. The majority of these, it is known, will be destroyed in accordance with a treaty concluded between the USSR and the United States. As far as those weapons which are not covered by this treaty are concerned, the republican Supreme Soviet and its government are seeking ways to destroy them, the chairman of the parliamentary subcommission added.

Report of Russian-Ukraine Arms Threats Rejected

LD2310205991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0700 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] A MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI report alleging that the RSFSR Government lobby discussed the possibility of the RSFSR and the independent Ukraine exchanging nuclear strikes has met negative response in the Ukraine. Correspondent Vladimir Sokolov reports that the Ukrainian press assesses this report as either a provocation or as an attempt at a threat. Konstantin Masyk, the first vice premier of the republic, said the Ukraine cannot recognize such a position of the mass media.

Kravchuk Cited on Borders, Nuclear Arms

PM2310214391 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Oct 91 First Edition p 1

[Captain Second Rank V. Pasyakin "Direct Line" report: "L. Kravchuk in the Black Sea Fleet"]

[Text] Sevastopol—Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman L. Kravchuk arrived at the main base of the Black Sea Fleet 22 October. After a meeting with the labor collective of the "Morskoy Zavod Imeni S. Ordzhonikidze" production association, the Ukrainian presidential candidate addressed naval servicemen.

L. Kravchuk expressed himself in particular in favor of the stability of existing borders between sovereign states and primarily states such as Russia and the Ukraine. He emphasized that the Crimean ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] must remain within the Ukraine since 90 percent of the Crimea's economic ties are with Ukrainian enterprises. The Ukrainian presidential candidate noted in particular the republic's need to have its own armed forces numbering some 450,000 men. In his opinion the control of the nuclear strategic forces should be in single hands, and the Ukraine does not aspire to the control of these forces.

It remains to be added that during L. Kravchuk's preelection speech, pickets carrying slogans demanding the annulment of the unconstitutional act of the presentation of the Crimea to the Ukraine and its transfer to Russian jurisdiction were lined up opposite the House of the Officers.

Shaposhnikov's 'Attacks' on Policy Criticized

LD2310173891 Kiev Radio Kiev in English 0100 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] An anti-Ukrainian campaign launched lately by some mass media has been supported by one more voice, that of the defense minister of the former union, Marshal Shaposhnikov. He appeared on the central television network with attacks on the policy of independent Ukraine in the military construction. It seems sometimes that the Moscow leaders are losing appearance of reality. They pretend not to know that Ukraine is a sovereign state, one of the founders of the United Nations organization, and has proclaimed its independence, and absolutely legal are attempts to materialize this sovereignty, to fill it with real content. In part, as far as (?the aspiration) of Ukraine's own armed forces is concerned, this is considered by the center as an attempt to destroy collective defense. In particular, the Defense Minister Marshal Shaposhnikov said the following: Ukraine has started division of the army personnel, saying that all the military men living on the territory of the republic belong to the Ukrainian Army, said Marshal Shaposhnikov. I will never submit to the idea to divide people who had sworn to be loyal to the USSR Constitution. Perhaps, after conclusion of the defense union, we will come to a decision that all the draftees will serve only on the territory of their republics, underlined Marshal Shaposhnikov. In this connection, I'd like to say that, speaking only about a possibility of a military service of Ukrainian men on the territory of our republic, the defense minister seemed to forget the fact that Ukraine's parliament had already taken a decision about their serving on the territory of our republic. The Ukraine's Supreme Soviet has adopted a concept of defense and construction of armed forces of our republic, envisages a necessity of existence in Ukraine of troops of two levels: armed forces of Ukraine and units of collective strategic defense. As for formation of a military unit among the republics which were members of the former USSR, Ukraine's Defense Minister Konstantin Morozov believes that first it is necessary to divide, to define one's share in the budget and financing and only after that it will be possible to think about a possibility of military union. As for the oath to the USSR Constitution Marshal Shaposhnikov was speaking about, Ukraine's Defense Minister Konstantin Morozov entirely rejected this possibility. Our young men, he underlined, will take an oath only to the constitution of independent Ukraine.

Participation in Soviet Foreign Debt Outlined

LD2310205491 Moscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 23 Oct 91

[By UKINFORM correspondents Aleksandr Litvinov and Mikhail Melnik]

[Text] Kiev October 23 TASS—The Ukraine has not entrusted the Soviet Union with the representation of its

interests in the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as well as in other international economic organizations.

The Ukraine will not carry out obligations on credits the Soviet Union may receive after it becomes an associate member of the International Monetary Fund, says today's statement of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet on major principles of succession of the republic, concerning the foreign debt and assets of the USSR.

At the same time, the statement noted that the Ukraine is a successor of the Soviet Union only in its part of the Soviet foreign debt and assets. The Ukraine confirms its readiness to participate in payment of the Soviet foreign debt, and take upon itself the servicing of this debt in part which is coordinated with all the other states—subjects of the former union.

The Ukraine confirms that it does not carry responsibility for paying credits of the Soviet Union, which were received on consent of the Union-Republican currency committee, if the Ukrainian consent on taking these credits was not clearly clarified and registered in a proper way.

The republic insists on an immediate division of all assets and reserves of the union on principles coordinated by all the states-subjects of the former union. It offers all other states of the former USSR to immediately create an inter-state mechanism to service the foreign debt of the Soviet Union.

On its part, the Ukraine is ready for direct servicing of its part of the debt, the statement stressed.

Further on Foreign Debt Policy

OW2410004391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2050 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine adopted a policy statement on Wednesday with respect to a message from the Vneshekonombank of the USSR in which it requested the National Bank of the Ukraine to send over to Moscow all foreign exchange on hand and all foreign exchange receivables. The contents of the message was made known by a representative of the National Bank.

The Ukrainian deputies believe that compliance with these instructions would lead to banks being prevented from conducting foreign exchange transactions for their customers and to $50-60 million less foreign exchange being contributed to the republic's currency fund by the end of the year.

The statement points out that the Ukraine is one of the legitimate successors to the USSR, and this holds true so far as paying off the country's foreign debt is concerned. However, the Ukraine will not bear responsibility for any credits received without its approval and insists on an immediate distribution of all assets among the republics according to the principles agreed upon by all of the former republics of the USSR.

The Ukraine has called upon the international community to provide it with information about property and other assets held by the Soviet Union abroad.

Kiev has decided to inform the International Monetary Fund [IMF], the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other international economic organizations that it has not authorized the Soviet Union to represent its interests in these organizations.

The Ukraine will take no part in meeting the Soviet Union's obligations arising from its associate membership in the IMF.

However, the republic has expressed willingness to service its share of the country's foreign debt.

Progress of Republic Presidential Campaign

LD2310195891 Kiev Radio Kiev in English 0100 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] [Announcer] The pre-election presidential campaign continues in Ukraine. I would like to remind you that so far the Central Electoral Commission has registered Leonid Kravchuk, Vyacheslav Chornovil, and Levko Lukyanenko as candidates for the post of Ukraine's president. All of them are actively holding meetings with the citizens of Ukraine, gaining votes for the future election scheduled for 1 December this year.

The chairman of the Republican Party, Levko Lukyanenko, has just arrived in Chernigov region. The candidate for Ukraine's presidency took part in the first regional forum of intellectuals which was held under the motto: "Ukraine: independent statehood culture." Representatives of Scientists, educationalists, medical workers, artists, by overwhelming majority met with approval a brief speech made by Levko Lukyanenko in which he outlined his electoral program. Its main (?content) is complete independence, sovereignty of Ukraine, both in political and economic aspects. Levko Lukyanenko believes that Ukraine doesn't need a union treaty and economic community though it supports all-round direct ties between the republics.

It should be said here that in the past year a certain complacent journalist, a loyal servant of the party, created rather a frightening image of Levko Lukyanenko—an extremist, anti-communist, merely a betrayer of motherland. But on the square [as heard] and during the press conference the presidential candidate gave so thoroughly weighed replies, spoke and behaved with dignity, that the cautious preposition [as heard] of many present noticeably faded away. Levko Lukyanenko didn't bypass the question, would he like to settle his accounts already in the role of president with his adversaries?

[Begin Lukyanenko recording, in Ukrainian fading into English translation] He who says that the new power will again begin repressions thinks in a common way. The new ones arrived and repressed those who were before them. And then they themselves were subjected to reprisals and so on and so forth. It was often the case in history, but the peculiarity of the new time and of the new approach is that this chain must be interrupted, broken, so that predecessors should not be repressed. This is my political program—to break off the chain of the reprisals and start a new period, and we are really beginning a new period in Ukraine's history after a prolonged period of independence. And you can see how good it is that during the six years of a peaceful revolution in Ukraine not a single shot has been made. We are against using communist methods against communists themselves. We are fighting for democracy, against their totalitarianism but we are also fighting for new methods of leading society which rule out the Bolshevik methods. [end recording]

[Announcer] According to information provided by representatives of the Greens, their leader, Minister of the Environment Yuriy Shcherbak, gathered already 70,000 votes. According to their data (Igor Yuvnovskyy) has 100,000 votes but, as I was told at the Central Electoral Commission, the registration of (Igor Yuvnovskyy) hasn't been planned for today.

Election Rules Clarified

LD2410105191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1150 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] Kiev, 23 Oct (UKRINFORM-TASS)—Ninety-four candidates have been put forward for the post of president of the Ukraine, where an election campaign has gotten under way. Out of this record number of candidates, the Central Electoral Commission in the republic's capital, Kiev, can register only those who have collected no fewer than 100,000 signatures in their support. To date, three have succeeded in doing this: the present chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet, Leonid Kravchuk, the chairman of the Lvov Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, Vyacheslav Chornovil, and the leader of the Ukraine's Republican Party, Levko Lukyanenko.

The elections will take place on 1 December. At the same time a referendum about the Ukraine's sovereignty will take place.

Meanwhile, the Central Electoral Commission has announced the setting up of a fund for the holding of preelection events by the presidential candidates. It is formed from state appropriations and also from voluntary donations by enterprises, institutions, organizations, public associations, and individual citizens, except foreign ones. The Ukraine's Supreme Soviet, proceeding from the commission's proposals, has set the amount of appropriations from the state budget at 75,000 rubles [R] per presidential candidate; the maximum amount of donations, which must not exceed R150,000; and the maximum amount an individual voluntary donation can be: from a legal entity up to R25,000, and from an individual up to R5,000. Voluntary donations above R150,000 are returned to those who sent these funds. In this way the total amount, consisting of funds appropriated by the state and voluntary donations, will not exceed R250,000 per candidate.

Delegation to New Supreme Soviet Discussed

OW2310001991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1648 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The parliament of the Ukraine will consider the possibility of sending its deputies to the session of the new Supreme Soviet either in the evening of October 24, or on October 25. This news was revealed after a telephone conversation between acting chairman of the Council of the Union, Boris Vassilyev, and Vice-Chairman of the Ukrainian parliament, Vladimir Grinev.

Mr. Grinev said that most leaders of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet would like the Ukrainian delegates to act as observers at the session in Moscow.

The Council of the Union has decided not to hold its session before the end of the week, and continue its work in the commissions. It will discuss the election of its chairman again on October 28.

Pro-Socialist Party Wins Support in Odessa

PM2410102591 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Oct 91 p 1

[Untitled PRAVDA-TASS column report]

[Text] The idea of setting up a left-centrist party in the Ukraine founded by the poet Boris Oleynik, has won support in Odessa. The Union of Democratic Forces of the Odessa Region was set up 19 October. Its main aim is to rally those people advocating a socialist option for the development of the Ukraine. The union's organizers include USSR People's Deputies Igor Zelinskiy and Vladimir Sevryukov.

Georgia

Further Details on Rival Rallies in Tbilisi

PM2310131591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Besik Urigashvili: "There Are Rallies and Rallies"]

[Text] Tbilisi—There were two rallies in Tbilisi on 22 October—outside the parliament building and outside the Cinema House.

The opposition rally was initiated by the Georgian National Democratic Party. The gathering outside parliament was addressed by Zviad Gamsakhurdia. In particular, he again dwelt on the question of the center's links with the Georgian opposition. Gamsakhurdia said that the Democratic Reform Movement, set up in Moscow on Shevardnadze's initiative, and the "Independent Democratic Georgia" movement which has just been formed in Georgia have similar goals: to split the nation and impose veiled communist ideas. He urged the people to display unity and cohesion, which, it was said, "will help overcome all the obstacles on the thorny and bright path to freedom."

Akakiy Asatiani, chairman of the republic Supreme Soviet, addressed the rally and dwelt in the main on the serious economic situation. He said that this winter Georgia could expect a marked deterioration in the inhabitants' social position. At the same time he said that Georgia did not intend to sign any economic or other treaty, but he did say that this question is very complex and should be resolved by the republic's people, and even a general referendum is not ruled out.

At the opposition rally there were further demands for the president's resignation, for a return to a parliamentary republic, and for the release of political prisoners. Ex-premier Tengiz Sigua addressed the gathering and announced that the base of the guards led by T. Kitovani would start broadcasting independent television programs. The rally participants demanded the release of well-known television journalist Valeriy Kvaratskheliya, who has been detained by the international affairs organs. Incidentally, we now know from authoritative sources that the prosecutor's office did not sanction the journalist's arrest.

Armenia

Presidential Candidate Says Election 'Invalid'

OW2410005391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2050 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] One of the former presidential candidates in Armenia—the leader of the "National Self-Determination" association Paruyr Airikyan finds the presidential election held in the republic Oct 16 invalid.

He has said at a press-conference today, Oct 23, in Yerevan that "the election campaign and the polling abounded in gross violations." According to the news agency SNARK, he accused the observers from the Armenian National Movement of illegal actions on the polling day, such as canvassing for Levon Ter-Petrosyan.

A video cassette was presented at the press-conference as evidence. All the pertinent documents, said P. Airikyan, had been handed over to the central electoral board and the Prosecutor's Office.

Besides, P. Airikyan laid responsibility on L. Ter-Petrosyan for an armed attack on him and his election agents during a canvassing trip to the village of Paravakar.

Republic Delegation for Azeri Talks Announced

LD2310204191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2100 GMT 22 Oct 91

[Text] The Armenian Parliament has confirmed the membership and the powers of the official delegation to hold talks with representatives of Azerbaijan. As reported by the SNARK agency, the delegation will be led by (Babkin Artskan), first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, and will include the first deputy prime minister, acting interior minister, the KGB chairman, three members of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the secretary of a parliamentary commission. In accordance with the Zheleznovodsk communique, the first working meeting of the two republics' representatives has already taken place on Azeri territory. The second meeting will be held 25 October.

Armenian-American To Head Foreign Ministry

OW2310194191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1613 GMT 23 Oct 91

[From "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On October 22, Armenian Parliament endorsed the appointment of Armenia's acting foreign minister, 32-year-old American citizen Raffi Ovanesyan. He is a lawyer and the son of well-known American historian Richard Ovanesyan. Until recently, he had chaired the Yerevan branch of the non-governmental organization, Armenian Assembly of America.

Mr. Ovanesyan is the second foreign citizen to be appointed to a state post in Armenia. The Armenian Parliament's Department of Information and Analysis is headed by another American of Armenian origin, historian Zhirair Liparidyan.

Poll on Independence, Political Attitudes

OW2410022791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] 37% of Armenia's population favour a complete break with the USSR; slightly less, 34%, would settle for a politically independent Armenia whose economy would be integrated with those of the former Soviet republics, according to the results of a poll that were made public on republican TV on Tuesday.

The most popular political organization in Armenia is the Armenian National Movement that is supported by 25% of the population. The second-highest popularity rating belongs to the revolutionary party Dashnaktsutyan: 19%. The Association for National Self-Determination led by Paruyar Airikyan and the Republican Party are supported by 14% and 13% respectively.

Azerbaijan

Mutalibov Will Not Sign Economic Union Treaty

OW2410004591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2050 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press service of Azerbaijan's President Ayaz Mutalibov denies his intention to sign the Treaty on Economic Union in the course of his visit to Moscow later this month on celebrations of the anniversary of the great Azerbaijani poet Nizami. The information was broadcast in the TV news session October 21.

Azerbaijan, goes on the press service, finds it more effective to deepen and develop bilateral horizontal ties with other republics.

Treaties of that kind have been concluded with Estonia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Belorussia, and Georgia. Similar agreements are being prepared with the Ukraine, Tajikistan, Turkmenia, and Russia.

Republic Wants To Keep Military Equipment

LD2410024791 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0150 GMT 24 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 24 Oct (TASS)—Azerbaijan regards the Economic Community Treaty as the first step toward the signing of a political treaty, although after the adoption by our legislature of Azerbaijan's act of independence our attitude to joining the political union has changed somewhat. This was stated by the president of Azerbaijan in an interview published today in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA.

Ayaz Mutalibov confirmed that the Azerbaijani leadership has asked the union's Defense Ministry to hand over to the republic the military equipment and weapons located on its territory. He said this was because "there is aggression by the neighboring republic against Azerbaijan, and the central leadership has shown a complete inability to protect us from encroachments. That is why we have decided to assume responsibility for the republic's defense."

Ayaz Mutalibov stated that the points of the Zheleznovodsk communique were not being fulfilled and this was the fault of those forces in Armenia "that are led by the movement to seize other people's territory." He noted that they realized that if "peace comes to Nagorno-Karabakh, that would mean their political downfall."

Replying to a question regarding Azerbaijani financing for union military programs, Mutalibov said that "the role of our republic in the maintenance of the union army is extremely problematic, and this question will be examined in the context of the establishment of republic self-defense forces."

Republic Supreme Soviet To Meet 29 Oct

NC2310134491 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1800 GMT 21 Oct 91

[Text] Attention Azerbaijan people's deputies: The Azerbaijan Republic Supreme Soviet will resume its session at 1000 on 29 October. The meeting will convene in the building which houses the Supreme Soviet: Azizbayev Avenue, No. 1, Baku City.

Mutalibov Aide on UNESCO Membership

OW2410014891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1710 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Vafa Gulizade, aide to Azerbaijan's president, who is attending the 26th session of the UNESCO General Conference in Paris, met with the leaders of that international organization. The Azeri press reported that the meeting covered the terms of the republic's planned entry into UNESCO. Mr. Gulizade said in a press-interviev that the required documents would shortly be prepared. The Foreign Office of Azerbaijan reported that the Organization Islamic Conference [OIC] invited Baku to join it as the 47th member. According to the Foreign Office, Baku's membership in the OIC will set the stage for Azerbaijan to nurture ties with Muslim states.

Once a member of the OIC, Azerbaijan plans to obtain interest-free economic credits from the Islamic Bank. The needy are entitled to disinterested help, according to Islamic precepts.

Mutalibov Meets With Austrian Ambassador

NC2410115491 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 0540 GMT 22 Oct 91

[From the republican press review]

[Text] President Mutalibov received Friedrich Bauer, Austria's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union, on 21 October. Ambassador Bauer arrived in Baku at the invitation of the republic's leaders. He was accompanied by a delegation made up of the representatives of Austria's business circles, including [words indistinct]. Mutalibov briefed the guests on the political, social, and economic situation in Azerbaijan and on the measures put into effect by the republic's leaders to maintain the independent republic's territorial integrity and sovereignty and promote Azerbaijan's economy to contemporary levels. He also outlined opportunities for improving Azerbaijan's relations with European countries. The prospects for improving Azerbaijan's relations with Austria and the new forms of cooperation between the two sides were also discussed.

Ambassador Bauer thanked President Mutalibov for his sincere welcome in the republic and noted that he is prepared to work to deepen Austria's cooperation with Azerbaijan in the economic field.

Kazakhstan

British Daily's Profile of Nazarbayev Noted

LD2410010291 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 23 Oct 91

[Text] London October 23 TASS—President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev begins an official visit to Britain next week. In the run-up to the visit, the influential British newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES carries a profile of the prominent politician.

The newspaper writes President Nazarbayev is one of the most sought-after leaders in the Soviet Union. First, he wholeheartedly favours preserving a political and economic union. Second, he is one of the first leaders to embrace and introduce market reform. Third, he is a leader of a republic rich in natural resources, and one which contains a vast nuclear arsenal.

The article's author Leyla Boulton notes that Nazarbayev "looks every bit the new-generation Soviet leader, a man with whom the West can do business". Nazarbayev "was one of the first Communists to support Mr. Gorbachev's dismissing the old guard in Kazakhstan "in the early days of perestroika", the author writes.

The president has already pushed through legislation on foreign investment, privatization and other laws setting the foundations of a "market economy," the author writes.

"Mr. Nazarbayev sets great store by foreign expertise: he is trying to arrange as much training abroad for his officials and industrial managers as possible", the FINANCIAL TIMES writes. The newspaper assesses this as an ability to change, and give up ideological barriers.

The author of the article believes that Nazarbayev favours the South Korean model of development. "All our difficulties come from poverty. The main problem for all of us, including Russia, is a parasitic way of thinking. People must learn to take care of themselves", the newspaper quotes him as saying.

The FINANCIAL TIMES asserts that in Kazakhstan Nazarbayev's authority is absolute. "No important decision is taken without reference to his office", the newspaper writes.

Nazarbayev was infuriated by Russia's statement after the abortive coup that it reserved the right to revise borders with the neighbouring republics. Despite public displays of friendship with Mr. Yeltsin, the reason why Nazarbayev wants to keep nuclear weapons on Kazakh territory is to prevent Russia from putting pressure on its neighbours, the newspaper writes.

Summing up Nazarbayev's stance regarding the present situation in the region, the newspaper highlights his words that "Islamic fundamentalists" are "trying hard to infiltrate the Central Asian republics in particular". "They have not succeded in Kazakhstan although I and other Kazakhs consider ourselves Moslems". [quotation marks as received]

The newspaper comments particularly on Nazarbayev's attitude to the economic union treaty signed the other day. "Mr. Nazarbayev takes the long-term view", the newspaper writes. It quotes him as saying that he believes that "we will create a normal state within some years".

Suleymenov Cited on Aims of New Party

PM2310143191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[By correspondent Vladimir Ardayev under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Poets Assume Power in Party"]

[Text] Alma-Ata—The constituent congress of the new Kazakhstan People's Congress party, headed by Olzhas Suleymenov and Mukhtar Shakhanov, USSR people's deputies and well known Kazakh poets and public figures, has been held in Alma-Ata.

"We decided to try to set up a fundamentally new party—not a class or national party, but a civic party of all the people," O. Suleymenov explained to your IZVESTIYA correspondent in this regard. "Our goal is to preserve Kazakhstan and the unique interethnic harmony achieved in this republic. All the humanist literature and philosophy accumulated by mankind is to form the theoretical content of our party. And the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—that quintessence of humanism—is our chief document. We intend to achieve an interethnic situation in Kazakhstan in the real rather than merely rhetorical sense of the term. A poet becomes a politician today willy-nilly: You can only work when you have peace of mind, not when blood is being shed around you or dangerous passions are seething at rallies outside your window. We need to have a party which defends the interests of people in general, regardless of nationality, class affiliation, religion, convictions..."

Journalists Visit to Semipalatinsk Detailed

PM2310140791 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2100 GMT 18 Oct 91

[Report by correspondent G. Fadeyeva and cameraman D. Britikov from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Now another anniversary. Tomorrow it is two years since the last explosion was carried out at the Semipalatinsk nuclear test range, in existence since 1947. This test site was closed down by Kazakh President Nazarbayev's 29 August decree. "Nevada-Semipalatinsk" antinuclear activists succeeded in getting authorization for Soviet and foreign journalists to visit the test site to study the environmental situation in Semipalatinsk Oblast. A "Vesti" film crew was among them.

[Fadeyeva] It was here in 1949 that our country's first nuclear mushroom cloud appeared, a sight with which we are so familiar from photographs of Hiroshima. But the total nuclear yield in Kazakhstan was 2,500 times higher than at Hiroshima. The USSR's first hydrogen bomb—a bomb developed with Academician Sakharov's guidance—was exploded on this very spot in 1952 to compare the size of the crater. Foreign correspondents had their own geiger counters. In some places their readings were 400 times above the norm. The test site covers an area of 16,000 square kilometers in direct proximity to more than a dozen population centers. So, livestock graze here and hay is mown here. We cannot provide documentary footage of this since cameramen were forbidden to film from the bus.

Why do the people living here mow this grass?

[M. Brodskiy, deputy chairman of the "Nevada-Semipalatinsk" movement] Where can they mow grass? On the moon? Where else can they mow? It's their land. They've endured these conditions here. The inhabitants have gotten used to it. And they don't even remember it any more. They only remember when something irremediable happens, when someone falls ill, when someone dies. No analysis is carried out here.

[Fadeyeva] "Nevada-Semipalatinsk" activists aim to get Kazakhstan, like Chernobyl, declared an environmental disaster area. Last year the government allocated money for compensation for the damage. Each victim received four-five rubles [figure as heard].